

MBZC Board Meeting at McGowan House in the Jung Room, August 20, 2023

Present: Sara, Susan Brodey, Susan Nine, Diane and Clara. Robert arrived at 9:17 am
Bowling in at 9:06 am

Opening Meeting: Recite opening chant

Minutes Approved: Susan N. makes a motion to approve the May 21, 2023 Board minutes. Sara seconded. Minutes Approved.

Secretary Position: Susan N. proposes two alternatives - recruit someone to be secretary or rotate secretary position. Ask someone within the sangha to take the Minutes. Will table topic for further discussion at November 2023 meeting.
Susan N. volunteers to take November 2023 Minutes. Sara will not be able to attend the November 2023 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Diane presents the Treasurer's report. Highlights increase in donations and sangha members' generosity. Steady stream of funds coming in from members. Insurance policies have been paid.
Bank charges are down. Membership Pledging - currently, 6 people have signed up for pledging - 5 monthly and 1 annual pledge.

Susan N. recommends to agendaize estate planning discussion for the November 2023 meeting.

The Budget Committee will meet before the November 2023 meeting, including a discussion on teachers' housing allowance. Will present to the Board at the November 2023 meeting.

Diane sent out budget requests to all via email. Annual donation card ready to print and will be mailed out in November 2023. Dina Stansbury spearheading it.

Susan B. motioned to approve Treasurer's Report. Susan N. seconded. Treasurer's report approved by all.

Teaching Council Report: Robert updates Board on the enthusiasm in the sangha. New people have been showing up and coming back. Robert saw this during zazen instruction. Diane led Introduction to Zen and had 9 attendees. Numbers have gone up for Brown Bag Zen and Ordinary Recovery.

Shogen and Robert are thinking of creating 2 different themed classes for the Fall, on anti-racism and a traditional zen text - exemplifying how we can take our Zen practice into the streets.

Sara reported: a member of MBZC has formed a book group revolving around Zen practice. Would like permission to use McGowan Zendo twice a month. Has filled out a form and submitted it to Sara. Susan N. proposes book club group pay donation to use the space in lieu of rent. Branching Streams Conference - unfortunately, no one from the Teaching Council will be able to attend. Diane will be attending.

Revolving Chairperson: Robert is up next to Chair the November 2023 meeting from August 21, 2023 through the November 2023 meeting. He asks Susan N. for assistance on chairing. She said yes.

Upcoming meetings: November 2023, February, May, August 2024.

Clara motions to approve Robert as upcoming Chairperson. Sara seconded. All approve.

New Board Members: The Board is the nominating committee. Announcements have been made at BBZ, Tuesday nights. Robert will invite a member, who has expressed interest, to sit in for the next meeting.

Fundraising - Sangha Building:

Susan N. proposes to think about a potential annual potluck. Diane suggests more social activities to unite the sangha.

Robert offers to organize a dinner before Thanksgiving to bring all MBZC groups together - would need financial support and extra hands. Date TBA.

Sara suggests the Board pay out of pocket for the dinner. Susan N. suggests we use budgeted funds for this offering.

Sara motions that we accept Robert's offering and Board Members provide funds for the dinner. Susan B. seconded. Discussion was had. Sara's motion passed. Sara's motion is approved by all.

Appreciations

Bowing out at 11:00 am

Next Board Meeting on November 12, 2023, Sunday, at McGowan from 9-11 am