

# MINUTES OF THE SNOWFLOWER CARETAKING COUNCIL

April 18, 2010 -- home of Carol Rubin

ATTENDING: Carol Rubin, Celeste Robins,  
Don Katz, Steve Fleck, Susan Pearsall

AWAY: Leah Samson-Samuel

## I. PRIVACY ISSUES SURROUNDING SANGHA CONTACT LISTS

Several members had contacted us with privacy concerns regarding the Sangha Contact List: it contains detailed personal information; and it is publicly, and prominently, available at some of our meetings.

The Council decided that current procedure will be modified as follows, with the twin goals of responding to privacy concerns, while continuing to provide sufficient information for efficient communication in our Sangha.

A. In place of the one detailed list we will have two lists:

Participants' List -- to contain full names with e-mail addresses

[‘Participant’ is someone who sits with us, but accepts no other duties. Any participant with a demonstrated need will be provided with fuller information upon request.]

Leaders' List -- to contain full names with addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses

['Leader' is anyone with a Sangha-related need to contact others on the list, e.g., committee or council members, librarians, presenters, schedulers, and so forth...]

B. Neither list will be placed in the public areas for general distribution. Rather, both lists will be kept in our Sangha information files, and will be given to those who so request.

## II. ISSUES OF ALLERGIES AND OTHER SENSITIVITIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE INVOLVING NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL SCENTS

[warning, bad pun ahead: Some folks who sit with us are SCENT-SIT-IVE to various scents and chemicals.]

SnowFlower has attempted to be a scent-free environment for many years. It has recently

become evident, however, that these efforts should be strengthened, in order to support those among us who have severe scent allergies or sensitivities.

This fact led to a broad-ranging discussion, which resulted in the following decisions:

A, The Sangha should be a Scent-Free Zone, insofar as reasonably possible.

B. The Caretaking Council will provide and maintain signs at the entryway to each meeting, requesting that people refrain from using the items that are currently known to cause discomfort and health problems.

The current signs to announce the Scent-Free Zone are worded as follows:

Please do not wear:  
perfume,  
cologne,

after shave,  
scented lotion,  
any essential oil,  
any balm,  
or any fragrance

into sangha.

C. There will be a short announcement of this policy, by members of the Council, at each meeting for the next month. In subsequent months, the policy will be announced at the first meeting of each month.

D. The March-April and May-June schedulers will be notified of the need for these special announcements.

E. The Council realizes that the list of allergies and sensitivities is nearly endless, and so this list may not cover all current or future issues. We therefore will monitor

difficulties and needs, with responses tailored to each situation as it arises.

### III. MENTORING / KALYANA MITTA INFORMATION SHEET

The Council briefly reviewed this document and recommended one small change: the coordinators names and contact information will not be available in print form at every meeting. Rather, this information will be available as needed, with frequent announcements for the newer participants.

Due to time constraints, further discussion of the document was tabled until the next meeting.

### IV. ANNUAL MEETING -- JULY, 2010

A. We will decide, via e-mail, who will present a report on behalf of the Council.

B. We will bid goodbye to Susan Pearsall [three-year term] and Leah Samson-Samuel [one-year term, replacing Susan Spiro]. And then, of course, we will be ready to welcome two new members to our group.

## V. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be set following the appointment of new members at the Annual Meeting.

report by Susan Pearsall