

Minutes of SnowFlower Steering Council
May 16, 2016

Present: Cheri Maples, Rosebud Sparer, Janet Zimmerman, Amy Krohn, Tom Loomis, Karuna Namenwirth, Pat Arnold, Gloria Green, Bonnie Trudell

Absent: Steve Spiro,

Guests: Micha Namenwirth

Cheri opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with a short sit.

Adoption of the Bylaws

- No changes since we approved the Bylaws in February

Roles & Responsibilities

- Added Scholarship Committee members

Diversity Efforts

- Completed Diversity Mindfulness Training
- The Unconscious Bias workshop has 52 participants in June
- Members of other Sanghas will be attending the Unconscious Bias
- So the last action will be to have an inter-Sangha affinity group – like an inter-Sangha Kalyana Mitta
- Micro-aggression – re-traumatizes people of color unintentionally
- SnowFlower is trying to do the work to be welcoming
- **Decision:** Authorize Cheri to offer up to \$1500 to get Don Coleman or qualified person of color to co-lead the Unconscious Bias. The money will come out of the Contingency Reserve. Approved 8-1
- Ask Walt and Tom to keep in mind when setting the price for the retreat to add about \$5 to the fee to raise funds for this program
- Steven is the coordinator so those willing to volunteer should get in touch with him

Coming Home (Wisconsin Prison Mindfulness Initiative – WPMI)

- Requesting expenses for prison work
- **Decision:** Amend the budget to give the project \$150 – Approved

Policy

- **Decision:** The Sangha list serve is not for individual fundraising, or political purposes
- **Decision:** SnowFlower projects should request funds for the next year from the SnowFlower Finance Committee in October.

Finance Report

- After the first quarter are slightly lower than budget, however some annual contributions have not come in yet
- The numbers of attendees are there
- Let people know we are a little behind on our collections

- Karuna to add to the reminders to leaders to mention that we are behind on collections

Website Development

- Gloria to send an e-mail to Susan Pearsall noting that she will be the contact on the website for the Steering Council
- Everything on the website is up-to-date thanks to Susan Pearsall
- We do not have a PO Box except for the three month period just prior to the retreat
- Will include the names of the Steering Council and indicate who the officers are
- Be clear that the secretary is the contact person for the Sangha
- Newsletters – show only the current issue, archive the old issues so people could access
 - See if we can do a drop down for current and archive
- Minutes –
 - Steering Council –
 - Start with when we became a Board (In February)
 - Going forward, show 4 Steering Council meetings and last Annual Meeting
 - Schedulers Council
 - Post minutes and keep on until the next meeting (one meeting per year)
 - Other projects should send minutes of meetings to Susan Pearsall to be posted
 - Change Love and Understanding Project to the Thich Nhat Hanh Foundation – we decide on the donation to the Foundation each year
 - Remove Earthholders
 - Finance Committee in lieu of minutes post the prior year's annual and the current year's budget that is approved at the Annual meeting
 - Add something to the web under Resources – call it Spiritual Friends – explaining Kalyana Mitta

NEXT MEETING DATES: Wednesday, September 14.

After a short sit, the meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria