

SnowFlower Annual Meeting
Monday January 30 at 7:00 pm
Friends Meetinghouse



Agenda

Bylaws/Steering Council Update

- At last year's annual meeting we presented the Bylaws for SnowFlower
- The Bylaws, which can be found on the website, state that SnowFlower is not a membership organization. The Steering Council is a self-perpetuating Board of Directors which makes decisions on behalf of the corporation.

Project/Committee Updates

- Schedulers
 - A year ago we really streamlined the job of the Scheduler -- just a single meeting last year.
 - Emphasis is on lining up leaders and supporting new leaders.
 - Schedulers make sure that new leaders get the coaching they need
 - Retiring Scheduler: Gloria. David Haskin, Mary Michel, Rosebud and Walt are renewing. But we had openings last year so we have spaces for several new Schedulers
- March one-day "Joy of Sangha" retreat
 - Took place on a Saturday, with 73 people signed up
 - Tom Loomis, Bonnie Trudell, Celeste and Walt organized
 - Co-teachers included: "Mindfulness in Daily Life" – David Haskin, "Engaged Practice" – Cheri Maples, "Joy" – Don Katz, "Sangha Building" – Steven Spiro.
- October Autumn Retreat, "Practicing Wholeheartedly"
 - Led by Jack Lawlor
 - Tom Loomis and Walt Keough co-managed and Celeste Robins was Registrar.
 - A record attendance, and the finances came out with a nice surplus that will support SnowFlower's scholarships and special programs in the upcoming year
- Mark these dates:
 - Spring 1-Day Retreat on April 22
 - Autumn Weekend Retreat on October 13-15, 2017.
- Coming Home – Steve
 - As prison related work expanded beyond just Coming Home. There are three main activities:
 - Moses and advocacy
 - Circles of Support to support newly released prisoners
 - Wisconsin Prison Mindfulness Initiative
- Open Hearts, Open Arms - Diversity Activities in 2016 included:
 - Reciting and reviewing each of the Diversity Trainings in February
 - Holding a special one-day workshop on issues of implicit bias and micro-aggression

- Helping foster the creation of a Madison person-of-color sangha.
- Website was revamped in 2016 to include:
 - Know your Sangha Member
 - Favorite Thich Nhat Hahn Quotes
 - Audio Dharma Talks – right now there are 7 out there. Leaders are encouraged to record their dharma talks so those who missed the talk can listen at their leisure.
 - Updated Calendar –
 - You can export specific calendar events to your personal calendar.
 - Create a new folder in your calendar to export the entire month’s calendar – with the click of one button (Export Month’s Events).
 - Search by date, title or leader’s name
 - A list of Diversity Resources on The Open Hearts, Open Arms project page

Volunteer were solicited for the following positions. If you are interested, please reply back to this e-mail.

- Steering Council – 3-4 Openings
- Schedulers Council – 1-3 Openings
- Member Database Coordinator
- Website Managing Editor
- Website Content Editor
- Facebook Page

Finance Report

- Informational, no vote at the Annual Meeting
- See attachment

Thank You’s

- Janet Zimmerman for five years as the treasurer
- Crystal Martin for her great work as the newsletter layout editor
- Suzanne Sweet for taking on the role of newsletter layout editor
- Curt Pawlisch and Zach Smith for their leadership and vision in working with the consultant to transform our website
- Karuna Namenwirth for always being available to provide guidance
- Countless other volunteers who lead Sangha and perform other tasks to keep Sangha running