

Steering Council Agenda- Wed July 8

Welcome- 10 min sit

Approval of minutes – unanimously approved

1. Updates:

a. Shining light on racial injustice:

i. statement posted to website

1. Thanks to Susan for posting

ii. Joint statement with local Buddhist groups

1. There isn't too much urgency on this and it seems like it would be a bit forced. Other groups have had some interest, but there isn't too much passionate interest on anyone's part and SnowFlower won't drive it.
2. One benefit could be to join together with other sanghas and build community.

iii. Leadership guidelines dropped

1. Amy, Nan and Lisa and Karuna found it very difficult to come to a place that felt good. Everything seemed a bit forceful and counter to the culture at SnowFlower, so we put trust in the Sangha to share and lead well.
2. Rosebud suggested that there could be a potential sharing/training with leaders and they could use the information or not as they plan for facilitating Sangha
3. Amy would be happy to share what their group came up with to see if it sparks anything else.

iv. WI Faith Voices for Justice

1. Nan and Susan Schwab reached out and re-joined this group that SnowFlower was once a member and helped found. Susan Schwab will be our official liaison (Nan is backup). Susan will share some actions, activities, etc. on the listserv.

v. MOSES participation

1. Walt reported that Carol is still very involved in MOSES and excited that there is STC interest in MOSES and hoping to grow SF involvement. This has also been folded into the Engagement Spoke.
2. Suggestion that there is another (or two) person at SF who is interested in MOSES and that they could be more of a communicator to the SF community with MOSES activities/opportunities. Carol is more involved in policy, so another person to bring awareness to SF would be wonderful. For

example, we should share the quarterly newsletter and like items to the greater SF community.

3. Suggestion that STC members reach out to our various sangha gatherings to see if there is interest for a person or two
 - b. Friends' Remodel
 - i. They have raised significant capital and soliciting all members now for a final push before talking with contractors for costs.
 - ii. SnowFlower could be making our members aware of the project and an opportunity to assist by the end of this year.
 - iii. Rosebud (David Sparer) would like the minutes to reflect that he is disclosing that he is representing the Friends as their lawyer in this endeavor.
 - c. Blue Cliff to likely join July 31 sangha
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2. Treasurer's Report and summary of finance committee meeting from July 5, 2020
 - a. Decision Items:
 - i. Reduce the library budget to \$300 from \$500
 1. Unanimous approval
 - ii. pay 3 months' rent to Friends for July-Sept with a conversation on whether they need further 3 months or 50% or 100%
 1. Unanimous approval
 2. Rosebud abstained from this vote
 - iii. Round up Spring Donations of \$432 to \$840 to gift to Holy Wisdom
 1. Unanimous approval
 - iv. Delay to December decisions on: last 3 months of rent to Friends; \$1000 donation to TNHF; \$1000 donation to BCM; \$1000 to building reserve
 1. We'll wait to discuss these items until December.
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3. Fall Retreat - discuss if viable options to hold in a reduced manner vs cancellation
 - a. Consensus is that we should not hold the retreat. Gloria will reach out to Jack and ask if he's willing to do a Dharma talk or something on a Friday night, or potentially even a half-day Zoom type event. Gloria will follow up with us on this.
 - b. Gloria will also check on any financial implications of cancelling, but she doesn't anticipate being out money.
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4. Engaged Buddhism, including shining light on racial and social inequity
 - a. One-time discussion group organized by Nan, Finn, and Dawn to end with a discussion of next steps. Intention is to build our sangha community and lead to

more opportunities for members to take leadership and shape direction around fostering an anti-racist practice

- i. This would really be geared to show white people what it could/would look like to have an anti-racist practice. It's really for a one-time event with the idea to gauge interest and see how it would take shape.
- ii. There is also interest in potentially reaching out to the ARISE Sangha or someone like Sr. Peace at MGM to figure out if we could do
- b. Encourage more listings on the listserv: -?e-mail to listserv asking members to reply with how they are already engaged and post a listing in an e-mail and on the website
 - i. Notes
- c. Susan Schwabe to post key items from WFVJ
 - i. Interest in Dane County Sanctuary Coalition (DCSC) presentation to SF (a sub group of WFVJ)
 - ii. Ask Susan to make recommendations to the STC on how we should be involved with WFVJ and which of their initiatives.
- d. Post MOSES initiatives and events
- e. Letter writing campaign
 - i. Notes

5. Ongoing initiatives

- a. First annual fundraising drive
 - i. There's a subcommittee setup for this and it'll be discussed next meeting
- b. Appoint new member to the STC
 - i. There's a subcommittee setup for this and it'll be discussed next meeting