

Deep Spring Center

Board of Directors Meeting

22 MARCH 2020 / 8:00 PM EST / ZOOM

Attendees

Isabelle Mook-Jodouin, Tana Dean, Robert Lee, Roann Altman, Tavis Taylor, Barbara Brodsky, Mary Bruey, Patricia Polanski

Guest: Desja Moryn

Aaron's Guidance

I'm Aaron. My blessings and love to you. It is a challenging time. May I remind you that the virus is a sentient being, of second density. A virus is a parasite of sorts in that it lives off a host. It does not plan or hold intention, in the way that a higher consciousness second density being or a third density being will do. A lower second density being cannot really plan. Thus, it does not hold intention to harm.

It does have the ability to understand certain kinds of communication. It would be very valuable for as many people in the world as is possible to attempt to communicate with it and tell it, "If you kill the host, you also will die." Teach it. It's capable of learning.

Do not hate it. It's simply being itself. You don't hate a jellyfish if you step on it and are stung. You just learn, "I need to keep my distance from the jellyfish." You need to keep your distance from the virus.

The virus itself has no conscious intention to teach you, but it does offer you a wonderful opportunity to learn. It just did not plan to come and teach you. It simply is doing what it needs to, to survive. However, throughout your Earth, many have been calling out for an opportunity to learn: to learn to live in peace with each other; to learn to slow down; to learn to be still, to be respectful; to live with love, rather than fear; to learn to make do with less, that all may live (although that making do with less will be temporary, when there is respect and caring for all, because as an Earth, you can figure out how to feed the whole Earth with plenty to eat, and that there need be no starvation).

You can learn to work energetically, to hold a high vibration. In fact, such a high vibration is one of your best safeties against this virus—to meditate daily and do energy work, chakra work, that helps raise your body to a higher vibration. There's no guarantee that you cannot catch the virus, even with a high vibration. The virus is not a negatively polarized being that avoids high vibration. But the high vibration is uncomfortable for it. A lower, heavier vibration is more comfortable.

Barbara read a poem I would like to share this with you. I think it's significant... A poem by Pablo Neruda, "Keeping Quiet". I want to read you just a little bit of this poem.

Now we will count to twelve
and we will all keep still
for once on the face of the earth,
let's not speak in any language;
let's stop for a second,
and not move our arms so much.

It would be an exotic moment
without rush, without engines;
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness.

Fishermen in the cold sea
would not harm whales
and the man gathering salt
would not look at his hurt hands.

Those who prepare green wars,
wars with gas, wars with fire,
victories with no survivors,
would put on clean clothes
and walk about with their brothers
in the shade, doing nothing.

What I want should not be confused
with total inactivity.
Life is what it is about;
I want no truck with death.

If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.
Perhaps the earth can teach us
as when everything seems dead
and later proves to be alive.

Now I'll count up to twelve
and you keep quiet and I will go.

I'm reading one paragraph again to you:

If we were not so single-minded
about keeping our lives moving,
and for once could do nothing,
perhaps a huge silence
might interrupt this sadness
of never understanding ourselves
and of threatening ourselves with death.

I see this as a promising result, if people will pay attention. That's a big "if". What you can do as individuals and as a sangha is to encourage people to pay attention, in part by paying attention yourself. Instead of running from "isolation", can you relax into it, and come back to the place where nobody is ever separate? Can you energetically embrace everybody in your world, those in that social isolation with you, and those in the wider world? This includes the virus, as well; it includes the jellyfish; it includes everything.

I see this period as a real, possible turning point for your world, in part because it's not

going to be over like that (snaps fingers). It may be many months. People can tolerate anything for a few days, maybe even a week. It's going to take a lot of support to help people open into the place of keeping quiet.

Keeping quiet doesn't mean you have to stay in silence. The various chat groups that are forming are wonderful supports. But I would hope that many in the world would remember—not learn, but remember—how to keep still. How to find that place of innate stillness wherein they may connect with all that is.

Let us pray together and work together toward this possible result, so that when this virus is resolved—and of course there will be other viruses, it's not just this one—but when this worldwide situation is resolved, there can be a new hope on Earth of literally taking care of each other, connecting heart to heart. You can cease to rush to the mall, just keeping quiet and cherishing all the riches that you have.

Please know that there are so many loving entities—your own personal guides and a vast number of guides—helping you, all of you, at this time. Turn to them for guidance. You are loved, and we believe in you and the power you have to turn something wonderful out of this situation.

Thank you. I would add to that, please wash your hands.

President's Report

- A. Refer to Ongoing Issues in Google drive on a regular basis
- B. Action item list from last meeting(s) or for future meetings ~~known to be completed-~~
 1. Aaron asked the Board members to do positive manifestation visualization exercise on a daily basis.
 2. Each Board member to write up a short bio of themselves and send to Tana to put on the Board members section of the website.
 3. Desja to interview Barbara for Wikipedia article.
 4. Roann to review Desja's writing of Barbara's info be put on Wikipedia.
 5. Tavis to collect information on cost of recording audio books as one of the projects.
 6. Tana looking at cost versus impact of fundraising.
 7. ~~Barbara to connect with someone she knows who could potentially translate in Spanish.~~
 8. Board members to put their skillsets into the Google Drive document.
 9. Board members to forward any names of suitable sangha members to Bob for new Treasurer position.
 10. ~~Tana to prepare request to send to previous Oakwood retreat attendees and send to Mary for review~~
 11. ~~Tana to move books to their own pages.~~
 12. List of volunteers on Google Drive, and need a volunteer leader to keep track and send requests to Tana to send out.
 13. Another UM department can assist with website/video editing
 14. Room for one more board member, 9 max including Barbara (non-voting)
 15. ~~Tavis to approach David Teare about being treasurer~~
 16. Bob to review email asking for fundraising volunteers and treasurer (to be sent after conversation with David)
 17. ~~Bob or Tana to post notice of cancellations on dates that were previously announced in Crazy Wisdom (March 15, April 19).~~
 18. ~~Isabelle to keep copy of the passwords encrypted electronically.~~
 19. ~~Tana to place copy of all passwords in the firebox.~~

20. Isabelle to place this protocol in the ongoing reminders folder on Google Drive.
21. Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution.
22. Tana to send email request out for volunteer leader, along with board member, fundraiser team members and treasurer volunteer request
23. Tana to get quotes from designer Roann sent, and from designer she found.
24. Tana will send out cancellation of Steiner retreat tomorrow.
25. Bob to communicate with Steiner to see if there is any cancellation fee.
26. Tana and Mary to work on second volunteer request email, including deadline that manager is needed.
27. Barbara to mention in classes that we need someone for managing Oakwood retreat.
28. Isabelle to contact new student, Julian, from Barbara's class, to determine skills and if/where he may be interested in volunteering his tech skills.
29. Tana to put the Mission and Vision on the home page too.
30. Tana to ask Crazy Wisdom if they can remove the cancelled RW dates on their electronic calendar.
31. Isabelle and Tana to get DP and Evenings with Aaron transcripts saved and taken off blog, so new blog postings can start.

C. Publishing projects

Tavis will resume research for professional narrators for audiobooks, has a contact in NC. More info to come.

Have agreements with Portuguese and Spanish translators for the books.

Portuguese translations to cost ~\$4,000 USD for all books.

Spanish translations more expensive, but getting reduced fee: 2.5 cents vs 8-10 cents per word.

Cost of translating *Cosmic Healing* prohibitive at this time.

Other 4 books to be translated in Spanish for about \$4,000 USD total. Once done, Tavis to update donor and find out if he wants to cover cost of *Cosmic Healing*.

D. Intervention option at RW

Will arrange to try doing it on Zoom for next session on May 17.

Will need a few dedicated people to hold space, either in person, or on Zoom if COVID-19 still an issue. Tavis and Barbara to discuss details.

Tana to cancel Interfaith space for May 17, and change information on website to indicate it will be via Zoom.

Team

Current Financial Update

Amount currently in checking account projected to cover projected budget expenses through June 2020 with a possible modest surplus.

With current plan, assuming monthly donations continue as they are now, and DP class continuing, finances should be stable for June 2020 - June 2021 budget.

Would like to increase reserves, if possible.

Fundraising

Team met in March (Tavis, Bob, Tana). Reviewed budget and some thoughts for workshops. Moving more onto Zoom. Will be meeting monthly for awhile.

Need another member, preferably community member.

Notes to help with fundraising concepts in file on Google Drive.

Treasurer

Need a new treasurer. David Teare contacted. He was on vacation and will get back to us when he returns.

Retreats

Steiner 2020: cancelled, due to low numbers. No penalty to be paid since no one else wanted the dates.

Dharma Path intensive 2020: June 12-20, manager is Pat Polanski

Pat will send out registration email next week, and indicate the intensive will likely be online, so not to buy plane tickets.

Will wait another few weeks, then Pat to contact Winny at Triple Crane about cancellation.

Oakwood 2020: October 3-11, 2020.

Needs onsite Manager. Ruth and Bill doing pre-retreat organization.

Mary, Bill and Ruth to meet with Desja about what is involved in being onsite Manager.

Could instead have manager of the day be a mindfulness task.

Deposit is due now, but not yet paid.

Mary to connect with Ted and indicate our intention is to hold the retreat but only if it is safe to do so.

Curriculum Team

2-year Dharma Path: Dharma path class will continue after completing its 2nd year this summer.

Awakened Heart Class: Awakened Heart will not be continued next fall, but participants will be invited to apply to join the continuing Dharma Path class.

Technology

Backups

Tana has photos already of physical spaces where safe is kept and will prepare a step by step guide to access, including her home and Barbara's.

Isabelle to place on Google Drive once done.

Web redesign

Cost estimate for redesign is about \$5,000, prohibitive at this time.

Tana recently did some redesigning that improved website appearance and functionality.

Roann helping with concepts, Tana and Isabelle to implement. Desja to help.

Will apply this summer for UM student.

Roann has contacted Chair of Business at Washtenaw Community College for student assistance.

Videos

AV team making shorter teaching videos out of portions of previous workshops.

Team has developed a format for editing.

2-3 videos being uploaded weekly.

Advantageous to upload regularly to keep search engine updating and our videos noticed.

Mary focusing on audio and video editing.

David Teare videotaping.

Bill Riccobono taping DP class.

Desja taping Awakened Heart Class and Evenings with Aaron.

Mary to upload edited audio from non DSC events for Barbara.

Archives

Getting files ready to be moved in 2020 .

Isabelle planning to create Wordpress site.

Isabelle to set up meeting with potential new volunteer Julian.

Marketing

Review extensive report by Roann

Blog: Isabelle to start posting ASAP.

Quarterly newsletter: next issue is in June

Manager's Report

Congratulatory ad ($\frac{1}{8}$ of a page) to be placed in Crazy Wisdom 25th anniversary issue, stacked with regular ad.

Tana and Pat to write congratulatory message, and ask Colette to help.

New local potential volunteer, offering to assist with taping at local events, also experienced with Apple video editing. Tana to connect with him and determine interests, and if a good fit, find out if he's willing to work on videotaping using non-Apple technology.

Barbara

Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution - contact information for him to be placed in Board Google Drive.

Seattle retreat to be done via Zoom next weekend.

Action Items

1. Aaron asked the Board members to do positive manifestation visualization exercise on a daily basis.
2. Each Board member to write up a short bio of themselves and send to Tana to put on the Board members section of the website.
3. Desja to interview Barbara for Wikipedia article.
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12. Isabelle to contact new student, Julian, from Barbara's class, to determine skills and if/where he may be interested in volunteering his tech skills.
13. Tana to cancel Interfaith space for RW for May 17, and change information on website to indicate Remembering Wholeness will be via Zoom.
14. Pat will send out DP intensive registration email next week, and indicate it will likely be online, so not to buy plane tickets.
15. Mary, Bill and Ruth to meet with Desja about what is involved in being onsite Manager.
16. Mary to connect with Ted at Oakwood and indicate our intention is to hold the retreat but only if it is safe to do so.
17. Tana to prepare a step by step guide for physical access to fire safe and hard drives, including her home and Barbara's.
18. Isabelle to place protocol for access to fire safe and hard drives on Google Drive once done.
19. Roann helping with concepts of web redesign, Tana and Isabelle to implement. Desja to help.
20. Tana and Pat to write congratulatory message for Crazy Wisdom 25th anniversary, and ask Colette to help.
21. Tana to connect with new potential volunteer and determine fit and interests.

Next Meeting

April 26, 2020, 8 PM Eastern