Deep Spring Center Board of Directors Meeting

02 AUGUST 2020 / 8:00 PM EST / ZOOM

Attendees

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

Aaron's Guidance

From Aaron regarding Dharma Path Year 3: I have chosen to base our path on the traditional dharma path of the Buddha, yet we will add new teachings that were not considered 2500 years ago because there was no blending of paths at that early date. We will draw from many traditions and from our own direct experience. The Buddha tells us, 'Be a lamp unto yourself." That means when the path grows dim, we seek the light within to know the way. Right now, in the world, there is a dimness. Each being is called to uncover their own light. This knowing of the Awakened Self is the heart of our fall program. To know the Self is to transcend the ego and its stories and open to The Awakened Heart. This movement takes a willingness to go through the darkness, which is ego's path, trusting the ever-presence of the Light even when it is not immediately apparent.

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. Roann to review Desja's writing of Barbara's info be put on Wikipedia. (on hold)
- 4. Tavis to collect information on cost of recording audio books as one of the projects.
- 5. Board members to put their skillsets into the Google Drive document.
- 6. Board members to forward any names of suitable sangha members to Bob for new Treasurer position.
- 7. List of volunteers on Drive, and need a volunteer leader to keep track and send requests to Tana to send out. (Colette will be volunteer leader)
- 8. Another UM department can assist with website/video editing-best to wait for a separate quarter, one student at time (going onto next level for one student for the fall)
- 9. Room for one more board member, 9 max including Barbara (non-voting)
- 10. Tavis to write semi-annual fundraising letter
- 11. Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution
- 12. Tana, need Barbara and Tana's addresses in ongoing reminders folder

- 13. Tana to connect with Barbara re: how to access home if Barbara not available.
- 14. Tana to connect with Dan Muir to see if he's still involved in COVID-19 response. If not, will inquire re: recording classes for teaching offerings. (conversation to happen in the fall)
- 15. Tana to include a note in future emails to participants that Zoom links for events are not to be shared.

C. Publishing projects

- Spanish and Portuguese translations ongoing.
- Henry doing formatting of English versions, then sending chapters to translators when he is done with each chapter.
- Isabelle to add folder on Board Google Drive for book publishing and translation project tracking.
- Tavis needs to re-record to help develop recording process (Time to Speak).
- Tavis has a contact in NC and TN for professional narrators.

Teams

Current Financial Update

Budget July 2020-June 2021: Bob working on budget, looks like it will be balanced, largely due to shift of events online. Goal for reserves should be \$50K.

Treasurer: Need new treasurer. David declined. One person contacted Tavis and is a maybe.

Remembering Wholeness

5/17/2020 very successful, attracting 3 times the attendees as when it was just local.

Very positive response to monthly online RW

Next RW: September 20

Retreats

Oakwood 2020: online only

Ruth, Bill and Mary have completed their portion.

Moves to Zoom team for planning now.

Curriculum Team

Dharma Path: class will continue for a 3rd year

Awakened Heart Class: completed, DP year 3 absorbing students

Workshops:

Sept 12: Need Zoom host

Barbara to look at her schedule and email Tavis and Tana to schedule half day beginner meditation workshop; will need support person present in case Otter fails

Jan 23-30, 2021 healing workshop: Barbara and Tavis

Technology

David Teare will Zoom host Dharma Path class

Zoom team hosting Oakwood retreat

Desja will Zoom host Evenings with Aaron

Mary still editing audio and video

Chants: Debra Basham is now recording chanting and uploading to YouTube

Marketing

Web redesign:

Board approved an expense of \$7500 maximum for entire design and implementation.

Once design is complete, if Tana has the time to do the development part, workload depending, would save \$3500.

Tana to give Leslie access to backend of site.

Tana to maintain new site once up, so no monthly maintenance fee.

Roann and Julian working on editing and shortening much of our content for site.

Roann working on architecture of content.

Logos: Board liked #1 and #2. Colette and Barbara to work with Roann on logos.

UofM fall quarter student: moving to next stage of process.

Quarterly newsletter: next issue coming out August 10

Will re-conceptualize newsletter once further along in web redesign.

Blog: is about ready to launch!! Words from the Deep Spring, aiming for August 17.

Audio on YouTube: simultaneous launch of blog (text) and Youtube (audio/video).

Announcements to come out on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as well as by email.

Isabelle to send blog announcement to Pat for inclusion in next issue of newsletter.

Zoom Team

Zoomed events allowing a larger audience and easier production for AV team.

Otter.ai voice to text software is amazing.

September 12 workshop: Pat to approach Zoom team to find host.

Archives

Beta site: hosted site is up, currently in WordPress.

Desja found archive plugin, Omeka, intended for archiving collections. May build site in this tool instead of WordPress as it includes many features, like full-text search, and organization of content that we are intending to implement. Looks very professional.

Archive.org: no limit, for our audiovisual media, can link to it. Once hit 50 items, can ask them to create collection for us so our content is organized.

Manager's Report

Social media continues to increase contacts every month.

Barbara

Barbara to determine which son will take over DSC property in the event of DSC dissolution.

Action Items

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- 12. Tana to give Leslie access to backend of site.
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- 14. Pat to approach Zoom team to find host for September 12 workshop.
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Next Meeting

September 20, 2020, 8 PM Eastern