

Minutes for Cleveland SCEC meeting on 06/10/07

Present: Bill Kirchner, Susan Kirchner, Anne Warren, Sarah Ralston, David Hunter, Yael Crawford, and Dawn Wegenek.

Jason Stone and Tim Keller were present for part of the meeting only.

Absent: Tom Ferguson and Kunga Yeshe

1. A brief report on the general 'town hall' sangha meeting on April 29 was given. The meeting was considered quite successful by all and was well attended by the general membership. A social hour was held afterwards.
2. Plans were made and tasks assigned to support Thubten Chodron's visit on July 6, 7 and 8. On Friday, July 6, she will speak on 'His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Chenrezig,' on July 7, 'Working with Anger,' and on Sunday, July 8, 'Cultivating Contentment.'
3. Plans were made and tasks assigned to facilitate Rimpoche's visit on July 21 and July 22. He will teach on 'The Smooth Path Lam Rim.' It was discussed how widely to publicize the teaching (which he has not given before). The center comfortably accommodates 120 people. Rimpoche's last teaching had 180 attendees over the total 2 day period.
4. Jason Stone gave an update on webcast/internet services and recording teachings and workshops. It was decided that we need to look for a different way to get a DSL connection. Anne Warren and Jason Stone will look into this. In addition, a problem was encountered when some equipment was unplugged and Jason requested that we help prevent this in the future with some agreed upon procedure.
5. Tim Keller has assumed the total responsibility of librarian due to Barbara o'Malley's lengthy recovery time from surgery. He gave an update on the status of the library. He has been creating a structure and cataloguing system for all materials.
6. The silent auction was extended until Rimpoche's visit on July 21. It will be set up before Thubten Chodron's visit.
7. Ujjen has requested having a rug sale in the summer. It was decided that the second weekend of August, September, or October would be a good time to coincide with the Tremont ArtWalk and that this would be suggested to him.
8. Yael gave a brief overview of the work and suggestions of the Conflict Resolution Committee (aka peacemakers). This committee is no longer active. A strong suggestion was made to invite someone to come and give a workshop on Conflict Resolution for the general sangha. Preferably the expert would be a Dharma practitioner.

Yael made a strong suggestion that if the executive council relies on discussing issues via group email, attention be paid to avoiding blaming and emotional statements of

frustration. Email is a mode of communication that invites miscommunication and potential conflict.

9. Bill announced that it was his last meeting as Council President as Sarah will be assuming that role after the summer retreat. At Sarah's request, suggestions were given for people to take over executive committee positions and committee chairs. Plans were made to get out the July/August newsletter. Bill was thanked for his years of extensive service.

10. Dawn suggested that monies be more closely secured when they are left in the donation jar. Policies for handling monies will be more specified in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Yael Crawford, Secretary
06/30/2007

Typed by Anne Warren 07/03/2007