



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Final Sacramento Insight Meditation Board Meeting Minutes, June 14, 2021

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6 :00PM on Monday, June 14, 2021 via teleconferencing

In Attendance

President	Absent	Member-At-Large	Tony Pruitt
Vice President	Jon Siiteri	Member-At-Large	Amy Kovak
Treasurer	Sara Denzler	Faculty Rep	Dennis Warren
Secretary	Alice Carney	SDC Rep	Bob Jenne
Recorder	Christine Bitonti	YPS Rep	Kelly Fitzgerald (substitute)

Beginnings

The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Jon Siiteri at 6:00 pm. He led the group in a brief period of meditation followed by a reading of the *Guidelines: Board Participation as Dharma Practice* and a member check-in.

Minutes

The draft of the Board of Directors' meeting minutes for May 10, 2021, was revised and approved by the Board and will be available in the SIM library. Minutes from two Executive sessions (April and May) will be reviewed, edited, and approved by email.

1.0. Fiscal

1.1. June Financial Reports

Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity Reports for January – May, 2021. Those reports are provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$124,222.95

Activity (TOTAL Column):

Net Revenue through March: \$4,719.16 (+\$2,829.68)

Net Revenue through April: \$4,045.43 (-\$673.73)

Net Revenue through May: \$7,517.70 (+\$3,472.27)

1.2. Special Donation

SIM received a generous \$5,000 donation to be used for retreat scholarships for people 40 years old or under (listed on the Statement of Financial Position under liabilities, which indicates money set aside for a particular purpose).

2.0. Community Outreach

2.1 Update from Diversity/Inclusivity Committee

Amy continues to assess interest among those on the Committee to continue this work. She will send an email to Dennis Warren Rich Howard, Barbara Briscoe and Alice Carney to set up a time to meet.

2.2 YPS update

Sitting in for Karen Tercho, Kelly Fitzgerald provided the report from YPS. Their next planning session will be on July 6. Ian MacLeod has been working with Sara Denzler to shape guidelines for YPS charitable donations. SIM faculty will be discussing this issue and will provide guidance to the Board. Karen has sent out a call for volunteers to learn the SIM Zoom system. YPS will be discussing their return to in-person events with SIM Board guidance.

3.0. Retreat and Class Updates

3.1 Residential Retreat planning 2021

Sara reported that planning for the retreat is going well. One hundred registrants will be allowed (Zoom limit); registration fee will be \$100 with self-selected scholarships of 50% or 95% (due to minimal cost of putting on the event). Alicia Patrice will be the paid registrar for the retreat.

Board members were excited to learn that Steve Armstrong is doing better now and will be able to participate more actively (providing dharma talks in addition to Q&A sessions).

3.2 Residential Retreat planning 2022

Greg Scharf and Neesha Patel have agreed to teach this in-person retreat from August 28, 2022 through September 4, 2022. Sara will communicate with the Mercy Center in Auburn to secure the facility for that week.

4.0. Board-Faculty Communication

4.1. Faculty Report

Dennis provided an extensive written report which can be found in the SIM Library. He presented updates from Rich Howard along with his own. Diane has no updates on her activities at this time.

The faculty will be meeting soon to review and comment on a number of important matters-- several proposed protocols and the YPS donation issue.

5.0. Volunteer Updates

5.1 Update from Margaret

Jon summarized Margaret's report focusing on various issues related to volunteering at SIM. There will be a blurb in next week's E-News soliciting volunteers for set-up and other activities as SIM resumes in-person events. Thursday night hosts will be asked to put Margaret's email in the Chat for anyone interested in volunteering. She requested that more information be provided in opening remarks on Thursday nights so that people will know what opportunities exist. YPS members have expressed interest in volunteering; Margaret will follow-up with the group.

The idea of continuing to have greeters at the front door when in-person events resume was discussed. Board members enthusiastically endorsed the idea. Amy will reach out to Robin Primavera who has expressed interest in this role (and has performed it in the past).

A discussion of Dana Committee responsibilities occurred. These volunteers will find that the process of counting dana at the end of the evening has been simplified. Jay Patel will take the money to the bank twice monthly and perform some of the accounting activities once done by volunteers on Thursday nights.

6.0. SDC

6.1. Building Report

Bob Jenne provided an extensive report (including wonderful pictures of progress on the North Yard project) which is available in the SIM Library. Solar panels are fully operational.

The Committee is focused on planning the reopening of SDC. Linda Dekker is retiring from office management, and volunteers are needed to take on the tasks she has been doing.

Fundraising activities may be needed for SDC as current income is not entirely covering expenses.

An extensive discussion occurred regarding the new audiovisual equipment and SIM's Zoom hosting needs. The Board approved a proposal to pay \$50 per night for hosting and equipment management until the end of the year. A discussion regarding payment for someone to manage this aspect of one-day events was tabled for later discussion.

6.2. Policy Report

The SCD policy report was approved.

6.3. SDC Re-Opening Committee, Update

Report is on file in the SIM Library

7.0. Operations Issues

7.1. Webpage Committee Report

Three companies have been contacted for proposals—two local, one in Washington, D.C. They offer similar services, but costs vary. The Committee needs more details from these groups before making a decision. One company, "Elevate," works exclusively with nonprofit organizations. Dennis noted the need for faculty involvement in reviewing proposals to ensure that the needs of teachers and students are met. He mentioned a sangha in Florida that has a website where course materials and recorded talks/videos are available right on the website and recommended they be contacted for information. The Committee will consider this idea.

7.2 Reopening committee update

A full report on the committee's recommendations is in the SIM Library. It includes the following: In-person activities will resume July 15; no check of vaccinations will be made; all people will be required to wear masks indoors; chairs will be placed three feet apart for social distancing; socializing will occur outside only; tea service will be provided (no food at present); all meetings will be available on Zoom.

An extensive discussion occurred regarding what to do if someone refuses to follow the rules, especially the mask-wearing mandate. This matter was tabled to allow Board members to think of reasonable solutions.

7.3. Protocol Approval -

Hosting for monthly Introduction to Meditation—this matter is waiting for faculty input as well as a protocol for YPS donations to outside organizations.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

July 12, 2021 @ 6pm - 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Alice Carney, Secretary
Christine Bitonti, Recorder