



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Final Sacramento Insight Meditation Board Meeting Minutes June 13, 2022

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 13, 2022 via teleconferencing.

Attendance

President	Jon Siiteri	Member-At-Large	Amy Kovak
Vice President	Tony Pruitt	YPS Rep	Idris Ahmed (Absent)
Treasurer	Sara Denzler	Faculty Rep	Absent
Secretary	Alice Carney	SDC Rep	
Recorder	Christine Bitonti	Member-At-Large	Karen Tercho (Absent)
Member-At-Large	Greg Gollihur		

Beginnings

President Jon Siiteri welcomed Greg Gollihur as a new Board Member. The meeting began with a five-minute sitting, personal check-in, and reading of the Board Participation Guidelines.

Minutes

SIM Board Minutes from May 9, 2022 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

1.0. Board-Faculty Communication

1.1 Faculty Report

Full written report (prepared by Diane Wilde) is available on the Google drive. It includes detailed information about topics that were discussed later in the Board meeting.

1.2 Teacher Care Team - feedback on Rich's document and Team members

A proposal for the Board to form a committee called the Teacher Care Committee was made and passed unanimously. The committee, once convened, will reach out to potential teachers and schedule various dharma events. Rich Howard will mentor the new committee for an unspecified period of time while the three members to be recruited (at least one from the Board and one from the Faculty plus a third sangha member) learn their roles and responsibilities.

1.3 Legacy Project Update

Tony Pruitt and Alice Carney are working on this project, having met with Rich to clarify its mission. The project addresses the issue of future teaching succession of SIM teachers/mentors. Encouraging teachers who are younger and have completed teacher training in the Insight tradition will ensure the continuity of dharma instruction at SIM.

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 May Financial Reports

Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity Reports for May 2022. Those reports are provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$152,708.73

Activity (Total Column):

Net Revenue through March: -\$5,575.46 (-\$674.28)

Net Revenue through April: \$3,671.41 (+\$9,246.87)

Net Revenue through May: \$22,629.85 (+\$18,958.44)

Notes:

- The May net revenue included \$3,548.38 for the annual retreat registrations. Also, a check for \$16,000 was deposited that has since been determined to be an error. So revenue will be adjusted by
 - \$16,000 in June.

3.0 Operations Issues

3.1 Covid Protocols

As long as COVID cases continue to rise, there will be no changes in COVID requirements for SIM attendees. These requirements are based on CDC recommendations that can be found online. High-quality masks are required indoors at all SIM functions; those unvaccinated are asked to attend online only; CDC guidelines for quarantine (when one has been exposed to the virus) and isolation (when one has become infected with COVID) must be followed.

3.2 Website Committee Report

A mock-up of the new website has been provided to the committee for their comments and suggestions. Amy reported that significant progress has been made; Jon added that the website will be visually refreshing, more functional, and easier to navigate.

3.3 Need for Additional SIM and SDC Board Members - Potential candidates?

Jon expressed the Board's gratitude for Greg having joined the SIM Board. He reiterated the ongoing need to identify and invite SIM members to join the SDC Board as a representative from the sangha. At present, Barbara Colton and Diane Wilde will continue to represent SIM at SDC meetings.

4.0 Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

No YPS representative was present at the meeting to provide a report.

4.2 Diversity/Inclusivity Committee - Land Acknowledgement

Amy reported that the "Land Acknowledgement" statement (approved by the Board at the May meeting) was sent to Three29, the website developer. They will put it in the new format and it will appear when the redesigned website goes online. The committee will continue working on various diversity issues, meeting next on June 21, 2022.

4.3 eNews and Periodic Board Newsletter to the Community

A substantive discussion occurred regarding the newsletter, a new communication tool—whether it should be a separate offering or part of the eNews. Board members see the newsletter as a sangha-building activity, particularly useful in this moment when sangha participation is split between in-person and online involvement. Members favor a separate publication to prevent content from becoming lost in the list of SIM activities contained in the eNews. Sara recommended that the eNews format itself be revised to make it more visually interesting and accessible. No action was taken on this issue.

5.0. Retreat and Class Updates

5.1 Residential retreat 2022, update

Sara announced that 23-24 people have committed to attending the annual retreat, enough to ensure that it will occur. Funding beyond that collected through registrations (approximately \$5000) may be needed to cover the total facility costs, and additional funds may be required for other items like Covid tests.. Discussion ensued regarding whether to keep the number of participants small and use the cozier space available at the Mercy Center or continue to recruit participants and possibly need to use a larger space on the grounds. Approximately eight slots are still available. Wide publication of the event was not favored, but some outreach to nearby sanghas may take place.

5.2 Class Updates

This information is available in the Faculty report on file on the Google drive and includes details on Dennis Warren's new course, an outgrowth of OSOS; Rich Howard's "Beginning Meditation" course; and Diane Wilde's "Eightfold Path" course.

6.0. Volunteer Updates

6.1 Volunteer Update

Margaret Buss reported that she may step down from her role as Volunteer Coordinator at the end of the year. She has not finalized her decision, but if she does leave the position, she promised to take an active role in recruiting her replacement. She strongly encouraged the Board to find ways to attract more sangha members into the hall for events, which could lead to greater volunteerism. She thanked Tony for identifying and supporting the group of greeters at SIM who make attendees feel welcome. Among her suggestions for increasing volunteerism was the extension of the Thursday evening break from 10 to 15 minutes to allow interaction among sangha members. Tony also suggested reinstating breakout rooms on Zoom and potential "coffee klatsch"-type meetings in-person at SDC for informal dharma discussions.

6.2 A/V Operations

A/V activities are progressing smoothly due to technical expertise of "paid" volunteers.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Report

A detailed report by Barbara Colton can be found in Meeting Materials on the Google drive and includes a proposal to rename the North Yard in honor of Susan Orr; a recommendation that each sangha at SDC be responsible to vacuum the Dharma Hall once monthly; a need for a "water master;" a request that each sangha appoint someone to be the sangha's "security" person and a request by SBMG to schedule SDC on Sunday morning. Board

members were encouraged by Jon to carefully review the document for possible later discussion and/or actions.

7.2 SDC Rent Increase - proposal

Sara reported that SDC Board is working on a more equitable rent structure for the three sanghas, while addressing increased SDC monthly costs. She proposed increasing SIM's portion of the rent from \$1240/month to \$1400/month. The motion passed unanimously.

7.3 Building Report

Jon reported that there are no urgent issues of concerns regarding the building at this time.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

July 11, 2022 @ 6pm - 8:30pm