



Sacramento Insight Meditation

FINAL

Sacramento Insight Meditation Board Meeting Minutes July 11, 2022

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM)
Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, July 11, 2022
via teleconferencing.

Attendance

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

Beginnings

The meeting began with a five-minute sitting, personal check-in, and reading of the Board Participation Guidelines.

Minutes

SIM Board Minutes from June 13, 2022 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

1.0. Board-Faculty Communication

1.1 Faculty Report

Diane Wilde provided a brief summary of the full Faculty Report which can be found in Meeting Materials on the Google Drive. She summarized Dennis Warren's preparations for an upcoming new course and mentioned his teaching at other sanghas in the area. Diane will take a year off from her "Year To Live" course and teach a course that returns to the fundamentals (e.g., Noble Eightfold Path) for those who have taken Beginning Meditation. She is particularly interested these days in focusing on the practical application of the dharma in everyday life. She is currently mentoring five SIM participants and several formerly incarcerated individuals. Rich Howard is currently on retreat.

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

The recommendation by Rich that the Teacher Care Team consist of at least one Board member, one Faculty member, and a SIM volunteer was discussed. Diane added that having a YPS member on the team would be advantageous as many teachers seem interested in teaching to a younger audience. Karen expressed her interest in serving as the Board/YPS representative on this committee as her A/V duties wind down.

1.3 Legacy Project Update

No specific updates were offered; Alice and Tony noted that Rich seems happy with how things are progressing with this project.

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 Financial Summary as of June 30, 2022

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

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$142,351.07

Activity (Total Column):

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

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

Net Revenue through June: \$14,314.19 (-\$8,856.66)

Notes:

- The net revenue for June includes \$6,849.73 from annual retreat income and expenditure. Also, net revenue was adjusted for an erroneous deposit of \$16,000 in May.

Additional financial information can be found in Meeting Materials.

3.0. Operations Issues

3.1 Website Committee Report

Diane requested that the web site page focusing on SIM teachers/mentors provide a way for donations to be made to them individually. Committee members promised to discuss the matter with 329, the web site developer. A prototype of the new web site has been provided to committee members who have given feedback to 329 in back and forth fashion. The process is not proceeding as quickly as once anticipated, but promises to yield a high quality product. The Committee will be meeting soon to continue its work.

3.2 Need for Additional SIM and SDC Board Members

Jon continues to ask for a volunteer to join the SDC Board, encouraging Board members to think of potential candidates to represent SIM there.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Idris reported that YPS is struggling to maintain volunteers because of the workload placed on just a few individuals, creating conditions for burnout. The group has decided to return to two sessions per month, eliminating the planning session and reducing the commitment for recruiting teachers. They also simplified the peer-led portion unless someone wishes to prepare a session.

Karen raised issues related to access for YPS members to the Zoom account password and key cards required to open the facility. She noted that one individual needs to be added to the list of those with password access and three to the list of SIM members with the key card. She will send a formal request to the Board.

4.2 Diversity/Inclusivity Committee

Amy reported that the Committee is working to finalize the Land Acknowledgement which will be provided to 329 for inclusion in the new website. The Committee is unsure what additional steps, if any, they will take next.

4.3 eNews and Periodic Board Newsletter to the Community

Tony reported that he has received positive feedback regarding the first issue of the newsletter. The newly formed Listening Council will be highlighted in an upcoming issue, most likely in the Fall after members return from summer vacations. A member of the YPS sangha will also be featured soon.

5.0. Retreat and Class Updates

5.1 Residential retreat 2022

Sara provided a detailed report which is available in Meeting Materials. Jon reported that there are 25 registrants and two faculty. The registration fees will not completely cover retreat costs, and some additional funds will be needed. The COVID protocol form for the retreat is under review. Josh Harbin, registrar for the event, will be sending out packets of information soon with forms for registrants to fill out and return.

5.2 Class Updates/Coordination

Jon mentioned two forms which are available for review in Meeting Materials: one detailing Board protocol for setting up a SIM course and the other a draft of protocol for a Board liaison to faculty when setting up a course. The latter item was discussed at length. At previous Board meetings, discussions have taken place regarding the need to support faculty in addressing issues related to logistics, advertising, A/V needs, and many other aspects of course development. Jon suggested that the protocol might be simplified in some manner. No action on this document was taken, but Amy noted an immediate need for support to Dennis Warren in developing his new course. She suggested that Josh, who is paid as a registrar for various events, might take a greater role in helping Dennis set up his course. Amy will reach out to Dennis to find out with what specific aspects of set-up he may need assistance. It was also noted that someone enrolled in a course may be willing to volunteer for certain tasks—e.g. handling dana.

6.0. Volunteer Updates

6.1 Volunteer Update

No report available.

6.2 A/V Operations

Karen suggested that the Zoom host for Thursday evening sessions set up breakout rooms for Zoom attendees during the break, possibly only one if attendance is low. She will initiate the process next Thursday evening.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Report

A variety of issues related to SDC were mentioned and/or discussed, including a request by SBMG to change its weekly meditation session from Sunday evening to Sunday morning which could impact occasional weekend activities of SIM. SBMG has not submitted a formal proposal for this change yet. A SIM volunteer has stepped up to commit to vacuuming the Dharma Hall once a month. SDC is in need of a “water master” (someone to manage the outdoor watering system). Finally, Jon is considering volunteering as the sangha’s “security” person, given his knowledge of the use of the defibrillator.

7.2 SDC Rental Agreement

Bob Jenne is drafting the new rental agreement between SIM and SDC which was approved by the Board in June, 2022 (\$1400/month) and asked that the Board allow a representative from the Finance Committee to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board. The proposal was approved unanimously.

7.3 Building Report

Report is on file in Meeting Materials, including a description of a problem with the air conditioning system which is awaiting a part to complete the repair. There are no urgent issues or concerns at present.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

August 8, 2022 @ 6pm - 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted
Alice Carney, Secretary
Chris Bitonti, Recorder