



Sacramento Insight Meditation

FINAL

Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes, January 9, 2023

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00PM on Monday, January 9, 2023 via teleconferencing.

Attendance

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

Beginnings

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

Minutes

The Board Minutes for December 12, 2022 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

1.0. Board-Faculty Communication

1. Faculty Report

Dennis Warren was unable to attend, but submitted a detailed report of faculty activities that can be found in "Meeting Materials" on the Google drive. The "Beginning Meditation" course will begin on January 18. Many additional classes are concluding or will be offered in 2023.

2. April Mini-Retreat

In his summary of faculty activities, Dennis presented details of discussions and planning that have occurred concerning an online "mini-retreat." Jon Siiteri explained that the retreat is being proposed as a means of reaching a broader, more inclusive audience in a format that would allow some flexibility for those with personal and work commitments. The retreat would occur over three days (Friday to Sunday) in April and would include two daily Zoom sessions of about 50 minutes each with instructions for self practice. Six teachers, including Legacy Project teachers, will be involved.

An extensive discussion occurred among Board members regarding practical and logistical issues related to the retreat. A list of questions and issues regarding A/V needs, outreach and promotion of the retreat, registration, dana and Zoom links, etc. was compiled by Jon and will be forwarded to Dennis and Karen Tercho (Board representative on the Teacher Liaison Committee).

3. Legacy Project Update – Fundraising

Discussion of fundraising for the Legacy Project was tabled until a meeting can occur with Board members and Faculty present to brainstorm fundraising strategies. Proposed dates are January 29 or February 5 in the afternoon at the Dharma Center. Jon will initiate a Doodle Poll to determine participant availability.

4. Teacher Liaison Committee

No report was available.

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 December Financial Reports

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

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$116,736,71

Net Revenue through December: -\$12,044.02

Notes:

The small decrease in revenue for 2022 was expected due to investing in updating SIM's website.

2.2 2022 Budget/Expenditures Review

Sara conducted an extensive review of the 2022 budget and expenditures which she described for the Board. The document she prepared can be found in "Meeting Materials" on the Google drive. Sara noted that SIM is financially stable and was under budget for 2022 with income slightly higher than for 2021. She commented that there was a notable decrease in dana for Thursday nights in 2022 compared with the last two years—somewhat offset by increases in dana for classes over the same period of time. Subsidies for dana to Thursday night teachers increased along with SDC rent (previously approved by the Board) and A/V expenses.

2.3 Proposed 2023 Budget

A detailed proposed 2023 Budget was placed in "Meeting Materials" on the Google drive for Board members to review prior to the January Board meeting. The total budget is \$130,970, which includes a 5% fiscal contingency and excludes the residential retreat. After some discussion, the budget was approved unanimously. The budget is increased for 2023 due to the \$33,000 committed to the Legacy Project. She noted that fundraising for that project is needed to prevent the need to draw from the \$50,000 reserve.

2.4 Proposed Increase in Class Registration

After review and discussion, the proposal to raise fees for all future SIM courses except Beginning Meditation was approved unanimously. The fee for Beginning Meditation will remain unchanged.

3.0. Operations Issues

3.1 Website Committee Report

Amy reported that the committee needs to review the completed work on the website by the contractor. In addition, they need to receive training (with Sabitre present) on how to make changes to it. The next meeting of the committee will occur in a couple of weeks.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Idris Ahmed reported that there are up to eight members attending YPS sessions with two relatively new members now coming more consistently. The group will continue to meet in person at the Dharma Center.

5.0. Retreat and Class Updates

5.1 Residential retreat 2023

The Board recognizes the need to begin recruiting a retreat manager for the November, 2023 residential retreat. Tony Pruitt volunteered to assist the manager, once s/he has been identified. Jerry Simkins is preparing a summary of activities and actions that need to be completed by the manager. Sara will check with the facility manager at the Mercy Center regarding the date a deposit will be required along with SIM's request for a specific number of rooms to be reserved.

5.2 Class Updates

Amy reported that 13 people have registered for the Beginning Meditation class. No pending issues need the Board's attention at this time.

6.0. Volunteer Updates

6.1 Volunteer Update

Jon received an email from Volunteer Coordinator, Margaret and shared three items: 1) Dennis will deliver a dharma talk on January 19 regarding volunteering; 2) it has been proposed that tea service be reinstated at 6:30PM on Thursday evenings to encourage interaction prior to the session; 3) 51 people attended the last Thursday evening session (online only due to weather concerns); many were new and younger.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Report

Minutes of the SDC Board meeting will not be available until approved at next Wednesday's Board meeting. Greg's admission to the Board is in process.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

February 13, 2023 @ 6pm - 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Alice Carney, Secretary
Christine Bitonti, Recorder