



Sacramento Insight Meditation

FINAL

Sacramento Insight Meditation Board Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2023

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 10, 2023 via teleconferencing.

Attendance

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

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 March 13, 2023 were reviewed and approved unanimously. **1.0**

1.0 Fiscal

1. March Financial Reports

Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer briefly reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity Reports for January- March 2023. Those reports are provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$120,396.90

Activity (Total Column):

Net Revenue through March 31, 2023: \$3,417

2. Legacy Project Evaluation

Jon reported that three people have been recruited as new SIM teachers through the Legacy Project and new options for teaching are being explored. He estimated that this project will result in a 30% increase in SIM's budget over the next two years. With no concrete plan in place for increasing the budget, he proposed a half-day Faculty and Board retreat to brainstorm possible approaches. During the discussion, Greg informed the Board about a local "Day of Giving" which has benefited many small nonprofit organizations in the area. Amy shared grant opportunities for meditation activities. Katie mentioned other local fundraising opportunities such as "dine and donate" days (collaborations with local restaurants). Amy and Alice encouraged a very focused session when the Faculty and Board meet. Jon will set up the session shortly.

2.0. Board-Faculty Communication

1. Faculty Report

No faculty representative was present, but a written report by Dennis can be found in Meeting Materials. Jon summarized the report, noting that Diane has a full "Eight-fold Path" class and Dennis' advanced course for those who attended the "Other Side of Suffering" is under development. Registration has not yet opened for this event. Rich is on a five-week retreat.

After a discussion of the recent decision to change the structure of SIM's Thursday evening program, Jon emphasized the importance of providing faculty members time to discuss any changes that affect their teaching. Amy noted that the Board never voted on the proposed change regarding a shortened evening program. The Board decided that they will do so after feedback has been gathered from Faculty and sangha members. It was noted that an online survey may be helpful in that regard.

2. Teacher Liaison Crew

Karen reported that this endeavor is going well, but requested that another member be recruited, especially since Rich is out-of-state and Jennifer Powers is new to the process. Currently, Karen is taking the lead to try and fill gaps in the teaching schedule for the summer and beyond. She will consult with Dennis and Diane for suggestions of teachers to contact.

3.0. Operations Issues

3.1 Proposal: Accept Katie Stonebraker as new SIM Board Member-at-Large
The Board previously voted on-line to admit Katie to the Board. Jon and others present welcomed her with much gratitude for her willingness to serve.

3.2 Board member activities

Jon acknowledged how much work each Board member has been doing on SIM's behalf. He thanked them for their efforts and dedication. The lists of activities submitted by members has been compiled into a document entitled "Action Items, April 10, 2023" that can be found in Meeting Materials.

3.3 Website Committee Report

Alice reported that the website launch is near, but technical complications have arisen which need to be addressed. After an extensive discussion on the matter, the Board decided to call a meeting (tentatively April 17) of Website committee members Jon, Karen, Amy with Sabitre to pinpoint issues of concern and develop a specific plan to prepare for launch of the site, recognizing that some problems may occur after launch which may require extra funding for Three29 to resolve. The Board agreed to delay the launch for Sabitre to address specific technical issues. The goal of the meeting is for Sabitre to commit to addressing only the most relevant issues so that a launch date before the end of the month can be set with Three29. Alice has chosen not to be part of the technical pre-launch planning.

3.4 Action Item List

The Action Item List can be found in Meeting Materials for review by Board members. Jon will ask for feedback on the activities of the Community Outreach Committee.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Idris will help with registration for the mini-retreat. Amy and Karen have been responding to questions about the event and supporting the teachers involved. In general, YPS activities are going well.

4.2 Community Outreach Committee Update

Refer to “Action Items, April 10, 2023” located in Meeting Materials.

5.0. Retreat and Class Updates

5.1 April Mini-Retreat

Alice reported that 42 people (including teachers) are registered for the event. Fliers are needed at SIM on Thursday nights to advertise the retreat, and people are encouraged to use social media to let others know about it.

5.2 Residential retreat 2023 (Jon)

Jon noted that the deposit to Mercy Center to reserve the rooms needed for the retreat will be due shortly. He proposed a survey of sangha members to determine likely attendance to help estimate the number of rooms that will be needed to accommodate attendees.

5.3 Class Updates

Amy reported that there are no updates to report. It remains unclear if “Beginning Meditation” course will be held in the Fall.

6.0. Volunteer Updates

6.1 Volunteer Update

Jon expressed that Margaret reported to him that things are going well.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Report

Greg reported that SDC is experiencing a budget shortfall that could impact SIM financially as well. The hours of the SDC manager were recently doubled due to his workload. The SDC Board wants to work with the sanghas on this issue (caused by an overall decrease in donor base and contributions), but have made no decisions yet. When they do so, Greg will report back to the Board.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

May 8, 2023 @ 6pm - 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Alice Carney, Secretary
Christine Bitonti, Recorder

