



Sacramento Insight Meditation

FINAL

Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes, July 10, 2023

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

Attendance

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

Beginnings

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

Minutes

The Board Minutes for June 12, 2023 were discussed and approved unanimously.

1.0. Fiscal

1. Financial Reports

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$113,784.97 (previous total \$114,213.85)

Statement of Activity

Net Revenue through June 30, 2023: -\$2,701.09 (previous total) -\$2,413.21

Notes:

Declines in net revenue and total Financial Position are reflective of increased expenditures for presenters as well as professional services.

2. SDC Lease Negotiation Proposal and Board Vote

Greg explained how and why the current proposal from the Lease Negotiation Committee was developed. This ad hoc committee was comprised of representatives from all three sanghas. The proposal to raise the rent amounts paid by the three sanghas includes a \$250/month increase for Valley Streams and a \$175/month increase for SBMG and SIM, respectively. These increases will solve the short-term revenue shortfall, leaving long-term budget issues still to be addressed by SDC and the three sanghas.

Jon moved that the proposal be accepted by the SIM Board. It was approved unanimously.

2.0. Board-Faculty Communication

2.1 Faculty Report

Representing the SIM Faculty, Diane Wilde summarized items from her written report which can be found in Meeting Materials on the Google drive. The faculty met last in mid-June. Summer activities of members have precluded additional meetings. Diane, in particular, has had a very busy teaching schedule. Among many other activities, she taught at a Sunday morning SBMG gathering to an audience of 50-60 people and was well received.

Diane stated that Dennis has some questions about post-pandemic participation at SIM. He also has suggested that faculty meet with the Legacy Committee to discuss the program, promotion of activities, fundraising, etc. Diane expressed concern about no-fee retreats which typically result in up to 50% of registrants not showing up. She would also like to see more Legacy teachers appear in person, since it makes such a difference in attendance and quality of participation. She recommended that the Introduction to Meditation be taught in-person only. She noted that the Noble Eight-fold Path course is progressing very well with 26 people attending, commenting, "It has been a joy."

Discussion occurred regarding a half-day community-building meeting prior to the scheduled September 10 meeting with consultant, Alan Senauke. The pre-event would focus on what SDC and the three sanghas want to accomplish when Alan is present.

Website issues were mentioned and discussed at length later in the Board meeting. Diane suggested that a paid back-up person for Sabitre may be needed.

2.2 Teacher Liaison Crew

Karen noted that teacher scheduling has been very challenging lately due to unforeseen issues and teacher changes. Also, next Thursday night's gathering will be restricted to Zoom only due to lack of technical staff. Jon volunteered to place a sign on the door at SDC in case anyone shows up in person. Karen recommended that an email be sent to those receiving the monthly newsletter alerting them to the change. Jon will investigate the possibility of doing this.

A discussion ensued regarding a request by next month's teacher, Rick Maddock, to offer practice interviews for in-person and Zoom attendees (he will be on Zoom). Karen will facilitate finding a volunteer to provide support for this activity; Amy may be able to volunteer pending a discussion with Karen regarding technical requirements. Alice volunteered to announce.

3.0. Operations Issues

3.1 Website Committee Report

Alice announced that the new SIM website has been launched. Sabitre continues to work with the website contractor, Three29, to finish last minute issues. Amy reported that she had seen a request by Sabitre for additional funds of \$900 to complete the work due to unintended technical consequences of the migration process which was complicated by the age of the former website. Greg requested more information about the contract with Three29 and specifics on the need for this additional funding. The issue is of some urgency due to the pending expiration of the contract. Jon will provide Greg with the requested information. Alice will discuss specifics of this request with Sabitre. A Board vote by email on approval of the request will follow once questions raised have been answered.

3.2 Action Item List

No additional items have been added to this list since the June 12 meeting.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Per message from Idris, YPS is stable with nothing new to report.

4.2

A significant discussion occurred regarding the need for community outreach activities that have been mentioned previously. Alice noted that a committee that had been formed to explore ideas has not met. Jon noted that these discussions should take place with the entire Board and agreed with Amy's recommendation to disband the committee.

A community presentation about the Legacy Project will take place at the Thursday night SIM gathering on October 5, informing the sangha about the purpose and activities of this project. A Faculty/Board meeting will take place in September to plan the event.

It was noted that the Legacy Project and its funding needs constitute a separate effort from overall outreach to the community to grow and diversify the sangha.

Jon reported that he had a fruitful conversation with Katie Stonebraker about outreach activities. She said that she would be interested in starting an Instagram campaign to promote diversity with respect to age, cultural identity, etc. Once up and running, she would need someone to take over the project due to her demanding teaching schedule.

5.0. Retreat and Class Updates

5.1 Residential retreat 2023-manager, registrar

Jon continues to seek a retreat manager and registrar for the retreat and asked Board members to recommend candidates.

6.0. Volunteer Updates

6.1 Volunteer Update

Margaret sent an email to Jon stating that even though short-handed, the volunteer crew works very well together, and there are no problems with Thursday night scheduling.

She raised the issue of the format changes on Thursday night, noting that with respect to the intended outcome (allowing volunteers to complete clean-up in a timely manner), the changes have not worked well. Jon noted that other comments by sangha members and teachers suggest the need for a survey regarding community members' experiences with the new format.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Report

Greg stated that SDC-related issues were addressed in his financial report above.

8.0. Next Board Meeting

August 14, 2023 6:00-8:30

**Respectfully Submitted,
Alice Carney, Secretary
Christine Bitonti, Recorder**