



# Sacramento Insight Meditation

## Sacramento Insight Meditation

### Board Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2025

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM)  
Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, September 8, 2025 via Zoom.

#### Attendance

President	Amy Kovak
Vice-President	Vacant
Treasurer	Absent
Secretary	Karen Tercho
Member-At-Large	Margaret Buss
Member-At-Large	Katie Stonebraker
Faculty Rep(s)	Diane Wilde and Diana Clark
Sacramento Dharma Center Rep	Absent
YPS Rep	Absent
Recorder	Christine Bitonti

#### 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 August 11, 2025 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

#### 1.0 Consent Agenda (No Discussion Items)

1.1 YPS

1.2 Social Media

- 1.3 Operations Manager/ Professional Services
- 1.4 Teacher Liaison Crew
- 1.5 Volunteers/Projects

## **2.0. Fiscal**

### **2.1 Financial Reports**

Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer briefly reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity by Class Reports for January 1, 2025, through August 31, 2025. Those reports are provided in the Meeting Materials on the Google Drive.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position Total Liabilities and Equity through August 31, 2025:  
\$101,280.28 (previous total \$100,982.71).

Statement of Activity Net Revenue through August 31, 2025: \$19,507.34 (previous total \$19,264.77).

## **3.0 Board-Faculty Communication**

### **3.1 Faculty Report**

The full report from the Faculty (Diane, Rich, and Dennis) can be found in Meeting Materials in Google Drive.

Diane summarized her written report and then invited Diana Clark to share her recent activities. Diana described a "dharma power" week during which she gave 10 talks in 8 days. She also conducted a soft launch of a new website, which currently has no content but is intended to direct traffic to various programs. She noted that she is enjoying her relationship with SIM and is grateful for the positive feedback she has received from sangha members.

An issue with potential significance for SIM was then raised: Vance Pryor has requested release from his contract due to family circumstances and overcommitment. He intends to remain involved as a visiting teacher. The Faculty will address this matter in a future meeting.

Karen raised the need to identify a substitute for Vance on Thursday night, October 2. Several possible teachers who are often available on short notice were suggested, and Karen will follow up to confirm a replacement.

## **4.0 Operations Issues**

### **4.1 Kalyāṇamitta Groups**

Amy reported on the effort to form discussion groups based on topics from the current dharma talk series. Twenty-one people initially signed up, with a few later dropping out. Four groups are now meeting online or in person, and feedback has been positive.

### **4.2 October Mini-Retreat**

Amy reported that arrangements for the two-day event are complete except for identifying someone to lead movement activities. Karen may be available to facilitate, and she emphasized preferring approaches accessible to the widest range of participants.

### 3.3 New Teacher Evaluation Meeting

Board members discussed the purpose and process of the annual evaluation of paid teachers, as outlined in their contracts. They agreed the evaluation should focus on the program as a whole, looking at how it is functioning and what could be strengthened, rather than on individual teaching efforts. The process could also provide an opportunity for teachers to offer feedback to the Board. Diane requested that Board members suggest questions to guide the evaluation, which could be shared with participants in advance of the meeting.

## 5.0 SIM Board

### 5.1 Board Recruitment Process

Amy summarized the Board's current process for inviting sangha members to join. Members discussed how the process has worked in the past and what changes might be needed now. Alternate ways of informing sangha members about Board opportunities, without opening the process too widely, were suggested. The Board supported Amy's written statement, which will be included in the next SIM News, along with information about the opportunity to represent SIM on the SDC Board. Several potential Board candidates were also suggested.

## 6.0 SDC

### 6.1 SDC Updates

At the last SDC Board meeting, SDC requested that SIM identify a representative to serve on the SDC Board. The Strategic Planning Meeting is scheduled for September 7, 2025. SDC has established a committee to expand its social media presence and is planning an end-of-year fundraising campaign, possibly to replace the failing AC units.

### 6.2 SDC Grant Application for Part-time Director/Teacher Stipends

Members discussed a proposed effort by SDC to submit a grant application. While there was no objection to the idea, it was noted that SIM might also apply for the same funding, creating potential competition between the two organizations.

### 6.3 SDC Strategic Planning Meeting

Diane and Margaret, who had attended a recent strategic planning meeting at SDC, provided a detailed summary of the discussion. The Board endorsed the idea that SDC could conduct outreach activities on behalf of all three sanghas. However, concerns were raised that some proposals from the strategy meeting might broaden SDC's scope in ways that could detract from higher-priority efforts—particularly securing a part-time director and funding for the position. Board members also noted potential financial implications of SDC's situation for the individual sanghas.

A proposed effort by SDC to submit a grant proposal application was raised. Members were not opposed to this idea, but did note that SIM might apply for the same grant funding in competition with SDC.

## 6.2 SIM Rep to SDC

SIM Board members continue to seek a sangha member to serve as the SIM representative on the SDC Board of Directors. As noted above, an invitation to serve in this role will be included in a SIM News item, which aims to increase understanding of Board functions, activities, and the skills required for the position.

## 7.0 New Business

### 7.1 Open Discussion

No new items were proposed.

Action Items:

Who is responsible	Task/s to be performed	Completion Date
Margaret	Prepare a list of items for discussion to be presented to SDC Board.	September 10, 2025
Amy	Make request for board members and SDC rep in SIM News	October 3, 2025

## 8.0 Next Board Meeting

**October 13, 2025, 6:00-8:00 PM**

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Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Bitonti, Recorder  
Karen Tercho, Secretary