



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2026

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, May 11, 2026, via Zoom.

Attendance

President	Amy Kovak
Vice-President	Vacant
Treasurer	Carmen Pereira
Secretary	Karen Tercho
Member-At-Large	Margaret Buss
Member-At-Large	Katie Stonebraker
Faculty Rep(s)	Diana Clark
Sacramento Dharma Center Rep	Diana Cassady
YPS Rep	Dylan Ramirez
Recorder	Christine Bitonti

Beginnings

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

Meeting Minutes

The Board Minutes for April 13, 2026, were reviewed and approved unanimously.

1.0 Consent Agenda (No Discussion Items)

- 1.1 Social Media
- 1.2 Operations Manager/ Professional Services
- 1.3 TLC
- 1.4 Volunteers/Projects

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 Financial Reports

Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activity by Class, and Statement of Activity Monthly reports for January 1, 2026, through April 30, 2026. These reports are provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position

Total Liabilities and Equity through April 30, 2026: \$139,397.83
(Previous total \$147,267.39)

Statement of Activity by Class

Net Revenue through April 30, 2026: \$24,518.68
(Previous total \$31,556.46)

Carmen noted that total revenue this year is 41% higher than for the same period last year due in large part to the pledge drive. Short retreats (daylongs) seem to be doing better than last year. There are more non-recurring donations this year. Monthly recurring donations have stayed the same. There seems to be a steady decline in revenue over the last several months, likely due to the "front-loading" of pledges. Also, no registration fees were collected in March or April.

2.2 BDOG

A total of \$ 3,760 was collected during the Big Day of Giving, although the check will not arrive until June. The total may be slightly less if not everyone paid the transaction fee.

3.0 Board-Faculty Communication

3.1 Faculty Report

Diana Clark provided the Faculty Report, which is available on the Google Drive. Diana reported that she and Walt enjoyed teaching the non-residential retreat together. They are hopeful that SIM will repeat this event. It was suggested to evaluate the usefulness of offering the Zoom option due to the expenses involved and the low participation on the platform.

A discussion ensued regarding course and retreat options. Diana recommended that SIM offer more courses that she believes create connections among members and other benefits.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Dylan provided a brief update on YPS activities. Attendance at Wednesday night sessions has remained consistent. Karson recently gave a talk on “Right Livelihood.”

YPS is applying for grant funding from the Lenz Foundation, which supports young adult dharma groups and activities. During a discussion about how the funding could be used, participants highlighted dana for teachers and scholarships for attendees. Amy confirmed that any awarded funds would be distributed to YPS through SIM, its fiscal sponsor.

5.0 Operations Issues

5.1 May Daylong- Seth Castleman

The upcoming daylong with Seth Castleman will be his first full day of teaching at SIM. Anticipation of his appearance led to a discussion about dana for teachers at these events, which is currently set at \$500 for visiting teachers and \$250 for SIM faculty. The treasurer noted that this amount was established many years ago. She also indicated that dana revenue from the daylong sessions frequently meets or exceeds \$500.

5.2 Underutilization of SDC Library and Garden Area

Margaret raised a concern that many sangha members do not use the library and may not know how to check out books. She indicated that, if tutored in the process herself, she would be willing to show others how the system works during Thursday night breaks.

Board members agreed that more efforts should be made to encourage use of the library, which is currently accepting new donations. Karen stated that an SBMG member, Joe Rucker, is the contact person for donations. She promised to provide Board members with more information about the donation process.

Margaret also brought up a concern that many SIM members are not using the new garden area and may not even be aware of it. She recommended that Thursday announcements include an invitation to explore the area, which includes a labyrinth for walking meditation.

6.0 SIM Board

6.1 Board Recruitment

Amy stated that she will meet with the individual who requested a meeting to discuss the duties of Board membership, as he may be interested in joining the Board. No one else has expressed interest at this time. Board members discussed their concern at length and considered how best to explain to the sangha that all three executive positions must be filled for SIM to function fully as a 501(c)(3) organization.

Karen suggested creating a written description of volunteer opportunities within SIM to encourage greater involvement, which could in turn lead to increased interest in the organization's governance.

Amy added that if no additional individuals have come forward by August, the Board will need to develop a new strategy to educate and motivate sangha members to become involved.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Updates

Diana Cassady shared information about the SDC Board's revised strategic plan, which will be discussed at an upcoming meeting involving members of all three participating sanghas. The plan is available on Google Drive. A primary issue under consideration is a potential rent increase. Information will also be presented regarding the implications if no rent increase occurs and restricted funds must instead be used to cover the shortfall.

Amy noted that SIM's financial planning already includes a potential rent increase of up to 10%, which would not place undue strain on the budget.

Additional strategies for raising funds to keep SDC open and well-maintained will also be discussed at the meeting.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Open Discussion

Action Items:

Who is responsible	Task/s to be performed	Completion Date
Amy	Follow up with Rich to begin developing the 2027 teaching schedule	May 15, 2026

9.0 Next Board Meeting

June 8, 2026, 6:00-8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Bitonti, Recorder
Karen Tercho, Secretary