



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes for June 8, 2026

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, June 8, 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)	Rich Howard
Sacramento Dharma Center Rep	Absent
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

Minutes from the May 11, 2026, meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously by the Board.

1.0 Consent Agenda (No Discussion Items)

1.1 Social Media

1.2 Operations Manager/ Professional Services

1.3 Volunteers/Projects

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 Financial Reports

Financial Summary as of May 2026

Monthly Report: 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 May 31, 2026. These reports can be found on the Google Drive. SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position

Total Liabilities and Equity through May 31, 2026: \$143,864.50 (Previous total \$139,397.83).

Statement of Activity by Class

Net Revenue through May 31, 2026: \$28,993.19 (Previous total \$24,518.68).

Notes: Revenue continues to look strong across all categories compared to 2025 YTD. Professional expenses are down compared to 2025 YTD, and overall expenses, not including donations, are comparable to 2025 YTD. These are good trajectories: revenues are going up, and expenses are staying steady compared to the previous YTD.

2.2 Investment of Reserves

Amy outlined several options for investing some of SIM's financial reserves, suggesting that funds be invested with an organization aligned with SIM's values. She noted that some funds may be coming soon from the estate of a deceased member who named SIM as a beneficiary. Carmen supported the idea of getting a CD. Four local banks were identified for this purpose, and the Board approved a \$50,000 investment once interest rates and investment conditions had been reviewed and a bank selected.

3.0 Board-Faculty Communication

3.1 Faculty Report

The Faculty Report is available on Google Drive with reports from Diana Clark and Diane Wilde included. Rich voiced excitement about the upcoming teachers new to SIM. Grace Lee is a YPS sangha member. Diana recommended Tanya Wiser from IMC. JD Doyle will be teaching again in August and September.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Dylan provided the YPS update, noting that the group is about halfway through the Lenz Foundation grant proposal process. The group is asking for \$10,000 to pay teachers and for facility needs. The formal request must come from a 501c3 organization, so YPS will work with the SIM Board to submit the proposal for the 2027 grant cycle.

Dylan noted that YPS has five peer organizers. One of them is now on a five-week retreat. Dylan will be attending a Spirit Rock Young Adult retreat and has been talking with members of several other young adult sanghas in the Bay Area.

Karen reported on feedback from YPS members regarding the library use and contents, and her attendance at a YPS meeting with about 25 people present.

5.0 Operations Issues

5.1 TLC

Diana Clark will teach a daylong retreat at the end of the month. Amy will check on accommodations for her stay. Depending on Diana's plans, meals can be figured out later.

5.2 Hearing Assist Devices

Prompted by a request from SBMG to use SIM's hearing assistance devices, Amy has been exploring the condition of the devices and requirements for their use, noting that they have not been used at SIM for a while. She discovered that the device covers have deteriorated and need to be replaced and that using them requires considerable time and energy from the AV tech and/or setup crew. After some discussion, it was decided that suggesting that those having difficulty hearing sit closer to the speakers would be the preferred response to this need on Thursday nights. The devices could be reserved primarily for retreats. Amy will investigate the cost of new covers. SBMG will be allowed to use them if needed.

5.3 July 9 Community Night

Amy led a discussion of the format and content of the upcoming Community Night on Thursday, July 9. The primary focus of the evening will be community building, with more opportunities for member interaction than are typical of a Thursday night session. Sara Denzler will lead the meditation at the beginning of the evening, followed by informal interactions among members and the sharing of snacks and beverages in the social hall. A prompt to facilitate conversations will be offered at the end of the meditation period, focusing on the blessings and gratitude for the practice and the community. The event will be in person only. Amy and Katie will be available that evening to assist with any AV needs. Margaret will communicate with Susan regarding setup requirements for the evening.

6.0 SIM Board

6.1 Board Recruitment

Amy has continued to reach out to the sangha member who has expressed interest in serving on the Board. They are hoping to meet soon. If others do not come forward to fill expiring

positions, the Board will need to hold a serious discussion with the sangha about what it would mean for the organization if those positions are not filled.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Updates

Diana Cassady was unable to attend this Board meeting, but provided notes from the last SDC Board meeting. These can be found on Google Drive.

Amy summarized the notes. Dave Jarrell (former Valley Streams Board President) has been hired as the SDC Operations and Development Manager. Sarah will step down as President of the Board on June 30. Amy suggested that SIM recognize her efforts in some concrete way. The group decided to gift her an orchid plant and a thank-you note, expressing deep gratitude for her efforts. Margaret noted that her contributions to SDC have been extraordinary. Sarah will be invited to attend SIM in person, where she will be acknowledged for her diligent work and presented with the orchid and note.

Amy also highlighted that rent contracts will remain unchanged through the next budget cycle and that rent will not be charged for additional space use. She recommended that SIM build a possible rent increase into next year's budget. SDC's strategic plan (for the period through 2030) will be finalized shortly. The Dharma Center's 10th anniversary is coming up in August, and SIM will play a part in the commemoration.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Open Discussion

The Beginning Meditation class, led by Rich and Sara, is scheduled from mid-January through February 2027. It has been placed on the SDC calendar. Registration will open in November of this year.

9.0 Next Board Meeting

July 13, 2026, 6:00-8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Bitonti, Recorder
Karen Tercho, Secretary