



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2026

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, July 13, 2026, 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)	Walt Opie
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 June 8, 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
- 1.4 Teacher Liaison Committee

2.0. Fiscal

2.1 Financial Reports

Financial Summary as of June 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 June 30, 2026. These reports are provided in the Meeting Materials. In addition, the 2026 SIM Mid-Year Budget Review is provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position

Total Liabilities and Equity through June 30, 2026: \$145,224.30 (Previous total \$143,864.50).
Statement of Activity by Class Net Revenue through June 30, 2026: \$30,584.12 (Previous total \$28,993.19).

In the Treasurer's absence, Amy led an extensive review of the documents submitted by the Treasurer detailing SIM's financial status at the six-month mark of the year. The original projected expenses totaled \$161,766. Based on actual expenses for the first half of the year and the original projections for the second half, total expenses are now projected at approximately \$152,061, representing a potential decrease of \$9,705 for the year.

General revenue totaled \$84,305 for the first half of 2026, compared with \$69,127 for the same period in 2025, an increase of approximately \$15,000.

Amy noted that SIM's current positive financial position can be attributed, in part, to the pledge campaign and other fundraising activities. She also emphasized that long-range planning will remain necessary to maintain SIM's financial stability.

2.2 Investment of Reserves

Amy reported that Sacramento Credit Union currently offers a competitive interest rate of 4% and recommended investing a portion of SIM's reserve funds in a Business Certificate of Deposit.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved authorizing Amy Kovak, on behalf of SIM, to open a Business Certificate of Deposit at Sacramento Credit Union and to transfer \$50,000 from SIM's Bank of America account to fund the certificate.

3.0 Board-Faculty Communication

3.1 Faculty Report

Walt Opie presented the Faculty Report, which can be found in Meeting Materials on the Google Drive. He summarized the reports provided by Diane Wilde and Diana Clark, as well as his own. Rich Howard is currently on retreat and did not submit one.

Diana has suggested that a Dedicated Practitioner Program similar to one she has taught for another sangha be considered for SIM participants. The idea was well received by Board members, who would like to gauge interest in such a program.

Later this year, Diana will teach a course on the Noble Eightfold Path, and Walt will teach on the Four Noble Truths.

4.0. Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Dylan Ramirez provided an update on YPS activities. There have consistently been 20–30 participants at regular sangha gatherings. Diana recently taught via Zoom and plans to return. Work is being done on a grant proposal to the Lenz Foundation, which must be submitted by September 15. Beth and Carmen are working on financial documents required for submission, and he and Beth will be meeting with Rich soon to work on the history of SIM.

Dylan reported that he will attend an upcoming Young Adult Retreat at Spirit Rock.

5.0 Operations Issues

5.1 Community Evening Recap

Board members estimated that more than 30 people attended the Thursday night community gathering at SIM the previous week. One individual who had never attended a SIM event was present and talked with the Board President. Dave Jarrell, the new Operations and Development Manager for SDC, also attended.

The evening began with a guided sit and dharma teaching by Sara Denzler. The remainder of the evening was spent in conversations among members to build connections and a sense of belonging.

One suggestion for the next such event was to provide seating in the dining area for those who may not be able to stand for the entire time. In general, feedback regarding the event was very positive; people asked that it be repeated, something the Board will keep in mind.

6.0 SIM Board

6.1 Board Recruitment

Amy reported on a conversation she had with a prospective Board member. She sent him the interview questions and application form and will connect with him soon to assess his interest in joining the Board. He had indicated that if he decides to do so, he could join as early as August.

Other positions will need to be filled soon, including another Member-at-Large and a SIM representative to the SDC Board (who is not a member of SIM's Board). How to engage the sangha in this process and identify prospects will be a subject at next month's Board meeting.

7.0. SDC

7.1 SDC Updates

Amy reported that the new SDC Board President is Barry Crawford and the new Operations and Development Manager is Dave Jarrell. She met with Dave on July 3 so that they can get to know each other. She emphasized the importance of working closely with him toward their shared goals. She invited him to attend a SIM Board meeting to meet the other members.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Open Discussion

No new business.

9.0 Next Board Meeting

August 10, 2026, 6:00-8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Bitonti, Recorder
Karen Tercho, Secretary