



Sacramento Insight Meditation

Board Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2026

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sacramento Insight Meditation (SIM) Board of Directors was convened at 6:00 PM on Monday, September 14, 2026, via Zoom.

Attendance

President	Amy Kovak
Vice-President	Vacant
Treasurer	Absent
Secretary	Karen Tercho
Member-At-Large	Margaret Buss
Member-At-Large	Absent
Faculty Rep(s)	Diana Clark
Sacramento Dharma Center Rep	Absent
YPS Rep	Dylan Ramirez/Beth Hart
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 reviewed and unanimously approved the minutes from the August 10, 2026 meeting.

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 August 2026

Monthly Report: Prior to this meeting, the Treasurer briefly reviewed SIM's Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity reports for January 1, 2026, through August 31, 2026. These reports are provided in the Meeting Materials.

SIM's finances stand as follows:

Statement of Financial Position: Total Liabilities and Equity through August 31, 2026: \$142,750.99 (Previous total \$140,690.29)

Statement of Activity by Class: Net Revenue through August 31, 2026: \$28,075.36 (Previous total \$26,189.66)

Monthly Recurring Donations: Two new donors, one donor canceled. Current monthly total is \$2,993 (a \$25/month increase from previous).

SIM continues to experience increased revenue and decreased expenses compared with the same period as last year.

3.0 Board-Faculty Communication

3.1 Faculty Report

Faculty reports for Diana, Walt, Rich, and Diane are on file in Google Drive. The faculty is currently discussing teaching events for 2027. Most Thursday evening and daylong dates are filled. Walt and Diana would like to hold a non-residential retreat in mid-October 2027, with participants meeting in person on Sunday and online during the week.

The faculty has discussed Vance's role at SIM going forward. The few remaining dates in 2027 would not work for him, but he will consider dates for 2028. He is scheduled to participate in the 2028 residential retreat.

The Board discussed the role of SIM faculty in the program proposed by YPS for the Lenz grant proposal. Amy summarized comments and feedback that have been offered, including the need for the program to focus on Insight Meditation rather than other Buddhist traditions and to support integration of YPS with the larger SIM community rather than separation from it.

4.0 Community Outreach

4.1 YPS Update

Beth and Dylan provided an update on YPS activities, which have been working out smoothly. Taylor, a new member of the leadership team, has been instrumental in keeping the group organized. Diana will teach at YPS on September 23.

4.2 Lenz Grant

Beth expressed gratitude for the feedback she and Dylan have received regarding their proposal. She asked how YPS could connect more directly with SIM, and the Board offered several suggestions. Amy noted that the Board needs new members and that involving younger members would be beneficial. She outlined the requirements for serving on the Board. Other suggestions included opportunities for YPS to provide input on teaching content and possibly organize a community night.

5.0 Operations Issues

5.1 TLC

Karen reported that the 2027 calendar is nearly complete. David has helped confirm dates for the year. Currently, only four dates remain open. Seth Castleman will teach on eight dates; Kamala Masters is confirmed for one date. Karen would like to schedule another community night.

5.2 Diana's Three-day Weekend Sept 24 – 26

Amy summarized the schedule for Diana's upcoming three-day teaching weekend (September 24–26). Diana will teach in person Thursday evening, there will be an informal gathering at the Dharma Center on Friday, and she will lead the daylong on Saturday. Accommodations for Diana have been arranged.

5.3 Diana's Eightfold Path Course (Nov 3 – 24, 2026)

The course will be offered online, and registration is currently open. Diana has designed the course to be relevant to daily life. It was suggested that information about the course be shared as soon as possible through the SIM News and on Thursday nights.

5.4 SIM Microphone Purchase - \$300.00

Amy recommended that SIM purchase a microphone for exclusive use to provide better sound quality. The cost would be approximately \$300. The Board unanimously approved the expenditure.

6.0 SIM Board

6.1 September 17 Board Appeal and Letter

On September 17 at 8:00 p.m., before the evening's Dharma talk, Amy, Margaret, and Diana Cassady will spend 15 minutes sharing their experiences serving on the Board with the community. They will outline the requirements for Board membership, as well as some of the roles and responsibilities involved. They will emphasize the urgent need for volunteers.

An appeal will also be made in written form in a separate SIM News email for the entire community.

7.0 SDC

7.1 SDC Updates

Amy summarized the written report prepared by Diana Cassady, SIM's representative to the SDC. Highlights included hiring an attorney to review the SDC bylaws, including the conflict of interest policy; redesigning the website to facilitate donations and legacy giving; the Library Committee's request for a dedicated webpage for catalog access; the Fall fundraiser; and opening an account at the Sacramento Regional Community Foundation for legacy gifts.

The Board expressed interest in exploring a similar arrangement for SIM's legacy gifts.

8.0 New Business

No new business discussed.

9.0 Next Board Meeting

October 12, 2026, 6:00-8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Bitonti, Recorder
Karen Tercho, Secretary