

Buddhist Temple of Toledo Leadership Council

Meeting Minutes, 9/11/2016

Present: Rev. Karen Do'on Weik Osho, Jenna Zusei Hirschman, Cheryl Kinko Baughman, Channing Shogen Cecil, Heather Jigen Denlinger-Galant, Madison Sho'On Roze

Absent: Rev. Jay Rinsen Weik Sensei, Michael Hoshi Leizerman, Geoff Jodon Rich

The 2016/2017 Leadership Council convened for its first regular session.

Membership

We have 95 members as of 9/10/2016.

In order to welcome visitors and members, and engage meaningfully with them so that every person who comes through the door feels valued and important, LC will establish a Warmth Committee. Kinko will lead the effort to establish the committee.

Finances

We are up to date on rent for the temple space through August, however we are facing a shortfall in September. We have \$71,227 in pledged data for 2016, falling short of both our original projected budget of \$74,412 and what we will actually need for operating expenses for the rest of the year. We are working on creating and sharing a revised budget for the remainder of the year that reflects what we have learned about our true operating expenses. More communications to members about the situation will be coming soon.

Ango Programs

About 40 people signed up to join or host a Sangha Circle. Participants are a good mix of medium- and long-time sangha members and people who are very new to the temple. Registration ends on Friday, 9/16 and people will be grouped into their circles and put in contact with their host before the first meetings.

We will keep the Doodle poll looking for the best dates for a work day with the Nature Conservancy open for another week at least.

Facebook

We discussed the possibility of changing the Facebook group from Secret to Closed or Public. We decided that the cloistered environment likely permits the kind of rich interaction and sharing we see in the group and so decided to keep the group Secret for now. Instead, we are considering how to use the temple's official Facebook page to share some of the rich life and

thought of our community and the communities that inspire us so that the wider Toledo and Zen community is aware of what we are offering.

Announcements

- Leadership Council celebrates the Shoken Guardian Council's announcement of 3 students engaging in Shoken initiation this fall: Gendo, Gosen, and Shishin.
- During 2017, Rinsen Sensei and Do'on Osho will introduce a postulancy process for discerning ordination. Details will be coming over the next few months.
- During Ango, the temple is committed to offering beginning instruction at 10:30am every Sunday. Shoken students will manage this effort alongside their other efforts in coordinating temple services.

Leadership Council Liaisons and Areas of Focus for 2016/2017

- Hoshi - Treasurer, other areas TBD
- Jigen is liaison to the Family Support Council. She will also be focusing on fundraising, financial sustainability, and marketing and outreach including social media and local events.
- Jodon - TBD
- Kinko is liaison to Dharma School, and will start the Warmth Committee.
- Shogen is liaison to the Lending Library and the Book Club. He will also focus on Sangha sewing activities outside of rakusus and robes.
- Sho'on is liaison to Teen Dharma School. She will also focus on short- and long-term conservation activities at the Abbacy, and additional teen activities.
- Zusei is liaison to the Shoken Guardian Council and Chair of the Leadership Council. She will also focus on sesshin, Jukai, and promoting the temple through social media and other efforts.