

LC Meeting Minutes 9/13/15

Present: Chuso, Jun'nyo, Kinko, Zusei, Shinyu, Hoshi, Rinsen, Do'on

Chuso called the meeting to order and we briefly reviewed the strategic planning exercise that was conducted in August with the outgoing and incoming leadership council members as well as Rinsen and Do'on, facilitated by Heather Gallant, a Sangha member and an expert in working with non-profits. During that session, the group reviewed our annual membership survey (summary attached) and then identified the LC's top three priorities to be Fundraising, Financial Health and Public Relations/ Marketing. We really feel like there are wonderful things going on in the Sangha, especially with a large, energetic Jukai class and the creation of the new Shoken group. We view our top priorities all in relation to growing the Sangha and preserving its long-term financial stability. At this meeting, we reflected on the strategic planning process and confirmed that those should be our top priorities for the year.

We discussed how to best organize the LC this year and what types of roles each person would like to play. We decided that Hoshi would remain Finance Chair, with one goal being to come up with a more accurate budget. Jun'nyo has agreed to take the role of Membership Chair once again. Kinko is taking on the role of Welcome Chair, with the goal of making sure visitors have a more welcoming environment when they walk in the door. Zusei will be promoting Sesshin in the coming year and will be the Leadership Council's liaison with the Shoken Council. Shinyu will work on Outreach, promoting greater connection with the community. Chuso will take on some fundraising duties and will be working on a Buddha's Birthday Celebration that will try to connect the Sangha with the Greater Toledo Community.

In other business, we discussed Board Insurance. This came out of our strategic planning session. Hoshi was going to look into it and see whether our current insurance provided this coverage, which would indemnify board members for actions they took while on the board. We discussed allowing alternative contributions in lieu of financial contributions for members to meet their annual pledges. We decided that the best policy would be for members who wish to contribute in other ways to make arrangements with the LC in advance. This way we can coordinate such requests. Although this is the current policy, we will highlight it in future solicitations. We agreed to begin to work on formalizing the Temple Store and Jun'nyo offered to purchase incense to donate to the store. We also discussed the great return we are beginning to see with Kroger Rewards and will continue to promote this to the Sangha.

Finally, Rinsen made public his intention to complete the transmission process with Do'on and her Denbo when the time is correct at some point in the future, and that if something unfortunate happens to him before that transmission (untimely death), she is to be recognized as having received Denbo and to take over as his chosen successor as Abbot.

After this meeting, Shishin let us know that he is unable to serve as LC member this year.

We will be meeting the second Sunday of the month. Next meeting: October 11th.