

## **Leadership Council Minutes 01/17/16**

In attendance: Chuso, Hoshi, Jun'nyo, Kinko & Rinsen

### **Families Group Update**

This group started because parents in the Sangha felt overwhelmed and wanted to get together with other parents and trade off on childcare so they can socialize. Also, there is an imperative for teachings geared towards the needs of families. Game nights for kids while there is a teaching for the adults, which focuses on parenting. Maybe a family camping weekend in 2017. Possibly sponsoring new families as they join. The group is also forming a leadership structure. Kinko is the official Leadership Council Liaison, and every meeting must have minutes that go to LC and then are shared with the Sangha.

### **Web Site Update**

Zuisei is not here but she sent some information for us to review. We would like to help prioritize. A slow approach with a clear focus was the consensus of our discussion. Gear it towards new members and visitors. Facebook is okay internal Sangha communications for now, but we should be ready for when we outgrow it. Developing membership is the top priority. Do'on wanted to make sure it looks modern and visually appealing. Most of what is up there is okay, but it's still cluttered. Entry funnel. Need intro videos, and more than just Rinsen in the videos (according to Rinsen!). Eventually we can add a members area with a forum to use by topic.

Urgency felt for boosting events (especially orientations) on social media and video content.

### **Marketing and Member Recruitment Ideas**

Jun'nyo is working on a four-page orientation flyer similar to the newsletter that just went out, as well as a simple black-and-white trifold version.

Kinko will debrief with Sangha members who helped with welcoming before and after service. She will be asking folks if they can come early and help with welcoming.

Online advertising discussion—we decided to focus on Facebook for now and move on this in the future.

Chuso will continue to promote Facebook events as dana for now.

We are anticipating the SEO suggestion will be part of the web redesign project under discussion.

Per suggestion about adding more services: Not looking to add a service this year. There will be Shoken sitting more often, but not for beginners and not a service. Would like to add an early morning sit (without service) weekly for Spring Ango.

We are seeking a volunteer to make sure our regular and social events are listed throughout the area in the media. Please contact Jun'nyo if you may be interested in helping out with this.

We will continue to encourage Sangha members to take flyers and cards with them to place around town.

Adopt-a-Highway—looking into it.

### **Sangha Circles**

A clear format has been set by Shinyu and Rinsen and Rinsen for small group Sangha meetings focused around Buddhist studies to be held monthly during Ango as a pilot. All groups will meet at different times—people will sign up. Would like this to become an ongoing feature. Facilitator training will take place first. Each month a text will be provided with Rinsen's commentary to feed the conversation. More details will be shared with the Sangha very soon.

### **Relationship Policy**

The following was adopted at the meeting and will be added to the Temple Bylaws:

The Great Heartland Sangha acknowledges romantic relationships may develop between Sangha members. As in all matters, we encourage full respect and care. It is the Sangha's hope that both parties should always continue to feel comfortable in the Sangha environment even if the relationship changes. In the case of a disagreement or breakup, both members may feel free to reach out to the Leadership Council Chair should they need help, such as coordinating schedules to ensure both individuals feel comfortable participating. Harm and confusion can result when persons of unequal status or authority enter into a romantic relationship. More information is available under #3 Sexual Relations section of the Temple Bylaws, which are available on the Temple's web site.

VOTE: YES: Hoshi, Chuso, Jun'nyo, Kinko + Rinsen

### **Membership Mailing**

By now all donors and current members should have received their 2015 tax letter and membership renewal form. Push over the next couple weeks. Need folks to renew and join by the end of January.

### **Orientation Scheduling**

Rinsen is setting up a schedule for 2016 orientations and we will post them soon.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Jun'nyo*