

Minutes of Board Meeting October 18, 2015

Board members present: Wayne Moskowitz, Karen Davis, Paul Gilsdorf, Bussho Lahn, Deb Mielke, Susan Nelson, Randy Wedin, and Jodi Williams

Board members absent: none

Staff present: Tim Burkett, Ben Connolly, and A.D. and Ted O'Toole

Other priests present: none

Other MZMC members present: none

Guests: Aaron Frazier, Tea2 Architects

Attachments/handouts:

- Notes from Oct. 14 Membership Committee Meeting
- MZMC Communications Summary 2015

1. September June 2015 Minutes

Bussho Lahn moved, and Wayne Moskowitz seconded, to approve the September minutes. Motion to approve the September minutes was approved unanimously.

2. Disclose any Conflicts of Interest

None were disclosed.

3. Facility Development Committee and Tea2 Presentation

Aaron Frazier from Tea2 Architects presented his firm's conceptual design for the proposed new addition. Among concepts and ideas incorporated into the design were the following:

- Duality as well as a new singularity
- Connection (bridge)
- Hierarchy and scale of space
- Solidity vs. openness
- Dynamic views out and inviting light in
- Welcoming entry and path
- Incorporation of several styles – Prairie style and Italian Renaissance

The Board asked questions about the conceptual drawing, discussed a rough estimate of the budget, and considered how best to unveil the drawing and plans to the Sangha. The Facility Development Committee will develop a plan for how and when to unveil the drawing.

4. Teacher Meeting Report

Tim Burkett discussed his thoughts about future leadership of MZMC. He had previously discussed these thoughts with the priests. His current plan is to serve as guiding teacher until his five-year term is up in about three years and three months. At that time, he would propose that he and Ted O'Toole serve as co-guiding teachers. The leadership group (currently Susan Nelson, Bussho Lahn, Wanda Isle, and Ben Connelly) would continue.

The Board discussed these ideas and their impacts on the priests. A.D. pointed out that it has been the

Board's intention to continue increasing compensation for teachers and staff. Jodi Williams suggested that it would be important to review previous documents and decisions regarding governance issues and the Board's authority to make final decisions. A.D. and Susan Nelson will review the recent documents related to this issue.

Tim Burkett discussed his two recent meetings with the priests, where he had asked them for their vision on how they wanted to be teachers of the Dharma. Priests were asked to provide both vision for themselves as individuals and as a collective group. There was interest expressed in establishing "satellite" programs. The idea of a 501(c)3 organization received less interest. Tim Burkett expressed the importance of continuing the approach of allowing teachers the chance to express the Dharma in their own way.

5. Communication Plan Update

The Board reviewed the MZMC Communications Summary for 2015. One challenge is to find appropriate metrics for evaluating the success of various approaches. Several MZMC leaders had met with Pamela Erwin Roemer, Director of Marketing and Business Development at Maslon LLP, Wayne Moskowitz's law firm. The purpose of the meeting was to learn more about best practices for communication and marketing.

6. Fundraising Projects Update

Jodi Williams described the fundraising dinner event she is hosting on Thursday, November 12. Randy Wedin discussed progress in planning the "Blank Friday" on Friday, November 27.

7. Membership Committee Report

Jodi Williams reviewed the plans for the upcoming Fall Membership Drive. The new member tea held on Friday, October 9, was attended by about a dozen new members. It was very successful and will be repeated again in the future.

8. Confirm December Meeting

Because of the many issues and projects currently before the Board, Wayne Moskowitz announced that there will be a December meeting. The MZMC Board will meet on Sunday, December 20.

9. New Business

No new business.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was moved by Paul Gilsdorf, seconded by Bussho Lahn, and passed unanimously.