

MZMC Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, July 17th, 2022

Members attending in person: Deb Mielke, Carrie Garcia, Katie Albright

Members attending via Zoom: Tanja Nelson, Chris Modec-Halverson (until 1:00)

Staff attending in person: Administrator, Ted O'Toole

Meeting came to order at 11:35 am

1. Conflicts of interest: none noted
2. Minutes: The June minutes received two minor corrections. A motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Carrie G., seconded by Katie A., motion passed. Admin. said that while all the minutes are public, only the last five years' worth will be on the website, and older minutes are available by contacting the office.
3. Teacher report (Ted): Things are going great! There is good attendance, even though it is summer. Venerable Ding was a delightful presence at the Zen Center, and connections have been made to allow the possibility of sending students to study in China and having Chinese monks visit us. We had meetings for temple officers and yard work volunteers, and monthly work practice has been scheduled. Our Japanese donor visited. We have dropped the masking requirement and the response has been mostly positive. There will be a work weekend at the Steger Center the last weekend of August. We are in a quiet transition period of settling into our new space, and we will be gently tightening up our efficiency and polishing the forms.
4. DEIA (Ted): The committee is meeting monthly. The video of the Welcoming and Belonging workshop is now available. Carrie has talked to other groups in the area in preparation for beginning our POC sitting group. We will have a presence at the LHENA neighborhood festival in August and we are developing a relationship with the group in their efforts in working towards restorative justice. The Waking Up to Race series consists of bi-monthly meetings, with the first one on August 15th.
5. New temple officers (Ted): The turnover of new temple officers happened July 1st. The list is posted on the porch. Carrie suggested having an assistant position for all (or most) of the temple officer positions. This would make for easier training and recruitment, and better continuity. The suggestion was generally supported and will be explored further. We are looking for ways to help new members become more familiar with the temple officer structure and roles, and to offer more inclusive messaging.
6. Membership (Tanja): The picnic will be Saturday July 23rd. There has been positive feedback to changing the Membership Table to the Information Table.

7. Bylaws and Governance Policy review: Our tax-exempt status gives us certain responsibilities which these documents aim to support. There was a talk-through and discussion, with clarifications and suggestions to clean up language, but no major changes.
8. Administration report (Admin.): Deferring some fundraising is putting us a bit close to the bone, but we are still in good shape financially. The 50th Anniversary celebration is coming together, with publicity going out and good energy being generated.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.