



Guru Yoga

- Gakyil Meeting Minutes:
- Appoint a Moderator: Diane Kramer
- Approve Last Meetings Minutes: Send an email for approval, approve by Friday
- In attendance: Diane Kramer, Dominik Niceva, Miranda Shannon, Nancy Paris, Jacqueline Gens, Jeremy Keaton and Tim Fisher. (Karen Prestwood, briefly)
- Next Gakyil Meeting: September 18 at 10AM

Staff

Secretary

- ✚ We will be shifting the cycle of Gakyil election to January starting in January 2018. This is part of the IG request.
- ✚ Membership Report and Action Item overview.
- ✚ Tim will have to work with New Blue about New Members Program. We have a lot of raw material in the form of suggestions from distance Community Members. Blue and Tim are working on ways to take this information and work it into systems or protocols that will help to facilitate stronger connections between Community Members and the Gar.
- ✚ We need to consolidate our Google Groups. There are a number of groups (which is great, lots of people are willing to participate) and it gets confusing. The goal is to organize the groups in a simple way so that we can easily track what is happening.

Geko

- ✚ Rinpoche's cabin – one side is torn off. We made a mess and then with Karma Yoga we cleaned this up. We got way more done than expected. We started to set up for the second side of the roof. The first side is now sealed and is ready to be shingled. Next we must tear off the second half. The chimney has a lot of rotted wood around it, which is where a lot of the water comes in. The wall is probably very damaged within but we have to take down the walls to really know what we have to do. Other than the roof the walls coming down is the next step.
- ✚ We need to take the siding off as well to fix/replace the big window. We may remove the giant windows and put small ones in that are easier to deal with. We have not decided exactly what the plan is we are still discussing. The goal is to have this done by winter time. In the winter we can continue work inside and outside as well at some points. We will need lots of help to accomplish this and preferably we can do it soon while we have the dumpster. We will also have a road by that time which will make this all easier. And we will have to arrange for plowing.
- ✚ Right before the Celebration we had a broken sink in the bathhouse, broken toilet in the schoolhouse and a broken toilet within the bathhouse. The water heater in the bathhouse was also dangerous and needed to be repaired. During the celebration a shower in the schoolhouse broke as well. On top of that, the Gator has broken down. We will be delivering that to Greenfield. We also have a broken washing machine in the Schoolhouse. This stream of broken

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things is constant. A new washing machine is between \$500-\$700 dollars. Are the machines also used by Phuntsog? Yes. The people who live here also use these.

- ✚ The Celebration went really smooth and the traffic there went well even without traffic control and we had about 50 people at the pujas. We put up NO PARKING signs in the appropriate places and everyone obeyed. As far as the road is concerned, Nary and Jeremy have started removing the boulders that are sticking out and damage people's cars as they drive by. This makes the land more accessible to people when we remove these things and improve the conditions.
- ✚ We are continuing this maintenance up the logging road that goes to the Thodgal cabin. We had some new faces come to the Celebration. We need to explain the role of Geko to newcomers. Last year Martina presented this topic, we should make people understand that the Geko has a say in what is happening so that people will understand and listen and not cause problems with the system. Similar thing can be done with Karma Yoga. Last year someone wanted to come for a month and do Karma Yoga instead of paying for their stay but that is not how it's meant to operate. We need to come up with a way to explain this more clearly. We need to point out that Karma Yoga is a practice in and of itself. We can clarify these points and present it at the Community meeting.

Whole Gakyil

IDC Alignment

- ✚ Karen Prestwood is joining us
- ✚ We are keeping parts of the older charter that David is concerned about that might put our 501(3) in jeopardy. I haven't seen the draft from Enrico yet, generally he has accepted that charter, though. TE statues was originally thought to be a template for us, for us to use what we want to, the IDC wants us to adopt those in whole either as our charter or our bylaws. The reason for this is because they want all of the Gars to work in very similar ways. The way the International Community has developed has led to lots of different kinds of bylaws and charters.
- ✚ When David reviewed the bylaws he finds it all to be legal, he has modified based on things related to how we might want to function in relation to the IDC and related to how the IRS would view us. We do have statues that have been modified and have been approved by our lawyer David as being legal and viewed by Enrico as being acceptable. We can add the piece about quarterly meetings and about assisting those who need help getting to the Gar.
- ✚ David has said all along that the IRS will review our revised charter and before we actually finalize it they can say what is alright based on our current tax exempt status. The cost is about 10%, it's about \$2,500. That is something that may be worth doing because we have made significant changes to the charter, not in spirit but in some ways. The new charter includes Rinpoche as our master and leader and includes that we are an International Community with webcasts. They are looking to see if our mission is in alignment with our original mission.

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- ✚ The documents for KPI will need to be changed to reflect that we are changing out official name. Right now it is Dzogchen Community in America. Now it will be the International Dzogchen Community at Tsegyalgar East.
- ✚ Enrico expressed that he is looking into the same team of people who started the IDC alignment to finish it. To keep the relationship the same we need to update the KPI charter and bylaws to reflect our new name. We need a 75% VOTE to change the bylaws. If we can't get that many votes then we have to go to the Secretary of State for approval. The 3 board members of KPI are Efreem Marder, Diane Sievers and Paula Gould.

New Gakyil Plan

- ✚ Email has been problematic. Blue Gakyil has weekly video conferences to facilitate better communication. This model should be kept in mind for the future.
- ✚ 4 Community Meetings over the course of the year; there should be minimum number of visits from distance Gakyil members.
- ✚ IDC emphasizes that it's good to have a blend of local and distance Gakyil members. If we were to make requirements then we should include that the community will pay for airfare to get the Gakyil member to the Gar because otherwise it could cause financial strain.
- ✚ There is a new system where we will elect in January and then the Gakyil have 3 months to create a plan for the year and then they present it to the Community. This is a proposal. It is not in the statutes.

Dzamlinggar House Reservations

- ✚ Dominik will stay as friend of yellow to help manage the DzamlingGar house registrations.
- ✚ There are 3 price tiers throughout the year. This depends on whether Rinpoche will be there or not which of course affects the demand. During retreat with Rinpoche it is called *Season 1*, when Rinpoche is there with no retreats it is *Season 2* and *Season 3* is when he is not there. We need to send out a request for reservations to the community so that we can schedule this. Lynn Newdome has made the first reservation for this December!
- ✚ We spent 1,300 euros on the kitchen and we maybe have a couple of hundred dollars left.

International Gakyil (IG) Meeting

- ✚ Community asked for a more targeted feasibility study for deciding on a lease or not depending on the pledges.
- ✚ Mark Farrington has asked to be connected with the Buckland Woods Group. There is definite interest from the International Community about this property.
- ✚ The discussion group will make the plan and Blue will be on that so that they can be included. We need to consolidate the Google Groups first, though.

Blue

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Tsegyalgar East Gakyil Minutes

Sunday, August 14 2016 at 9:00AM

- ✚ No current Blue Gakyil members are present for this meeting. Sitting in on the meeting are Jacqueline Gens, Nancy Paris and Miranda Shannon – the new Blue Gakyil applicants.
- ✚ The prospective Blues are already working together to create an Event Calendar for 2017.

Red

- ✚ No Red Gakyil members are present for this meeting.

Yellow

- ✚ How much money have we made this year from Teachings? Every teaching we do brings money into the treasury. This will be more closely looked at.
- ✚ We maybe can renegotiate our agreement with SSI as far as rent and utilization of the Schoolhouse.
- ✚ Tibetan Medical Students are going to be here even less because more curriculums will be available online. For this upcoming set of programs, Dr. Phuntsog will not be here. We need better communication between Gakyil and SSI (Mainly, Caroline and Bret, who are here.)
- ✚ DCA could also host open programs, perhaps. DCA programs are usually related to Transmission and so it's not so easy to have open programming. Shang Shung Yantra can be more related to Tibetan medicine, have a different presentation as to how it pertains to your life.
- ✚ Can we create a group where we can keep track of tasks at hand and people can join and see what needs to be done and then people can participate where need be. We can make this into a database and base it around people's skills sets. This database would help to inspire cooperatives and will connect people with similar interests.
- ✚ Diane is proposing giving Jeremy a raise. \$300 recommended a month raise. Yellow approves.

ACTION ITEM: New Blues will meet with Dominik about the Google Groups consolidation.

ACTION ITEM: Give Jeremy a raise!.

ACTION ITEM: Get the feasibility plan going so that all Gakyil members can collaborate.

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