Tsegyalgar East Gakyil Minutes

Guruyoga

Appoint a Moderator: Diane Kramer

Schedule Next Meeting: October 23, 2016 at 9:00AM.

Approve Last Meetings Minutes: Dominik hasn't read them. She will do this today.

Who is here: Gakyil - Diane Kramer, Amanda Pollock, Matt Hayat, Liz Wickhart, Dominik Niceva, Cindy Thibeau, Staff - Jeremy Keaton, Tim Fisher, Visitors: Miranda Shannon, Jacqueline Gens, and Al Daggett.

INTRO

Diane, Dominik, Matt and Amanda met on WebEx and talked guidelines: respect, loving and caring treatment of one another when not seeing eye to eye.

GEKO UPDATE

- Discussion of need for Karma Yoga
- **Windows need to be sealed in Schoolhouse for the winter.**
- Rinpoche's cabin Roof nearly complete, internal repairs to follow. Once we finish shingling it's mostly done. We can still do internal repairs once it gets cold.
- Town of Conway wants to use our road for 250th Conway Celebration. We will ask them to fix drainage and pavement.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Jeremy and Cindy will talk with the town about fixing the driveways at the Schoolhouse.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Request to use TsegyalgarNet and make a Karma Yoga email list and see who can help to organize karma yoga. Jeremy and Red will do this.

SECRETARY:

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

4 266 Members

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Re-Membering Campaign to ask why old members haven't renewed since 2015. Tim and Yellow/Blue's will explore this with John LaFrance's wife.

BLUE GAKYIL

SCHOOLHOUSE GRANT

Dedication of Merits

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- Ed Mathaney is nearly complete with this application. He is confident we can get this in during the next few weeks. Carpeting or hardwood flooring can be included in the Grant and then we can get more money to redo more things.
- Roofer who works with the Town of Conway has assessed the roof and eaves and has estimated a \$150,000 cost. \$200,000 is available in the Town's funding.
- Caution: If there is any talk about selling the Schoolhouse it will ruin our chances for getting the money. As far as flooring is concerned, if we could get an estimate this week that would be ideal.
- Cork flooring is another possibility. Sometimes it's less expensive and more user friendly. We can maybe get a price for this. Amanda will call someone this week.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Amanda and Cindy will get estimates for flooring or carpeting and a handicap accessible entrance to be included in the Grant. Diane Sullivan can help with planning for handicap accessibility.

FALL PROGRAMS

- The Communications Course for Teachers went really well, 11 participants and Gianfranco were very happy.
- **4** DCA Fall Programs are:
 - Dance of 3 Vajras Course with Ed Hayes will be supervised by Prima Mai via Skype.
 - Michael Katz will the lead a Rushen Course during the first weekend in November for SMS Base. Discussion of practice retreats during the holidays.
- Google Calendar has been set up to manage practices moving forward. Invitation was sent out to line up coordinators and leaders.
- Anna and Fabio are doing a training course to make more webcasts available. At this point there are 5 individuals who can do this: Jeremy Keaton, Nick Boutros, Steve Ezequelle, Adriane Boscardin and Bodhi Krause.

ACTION ITEM: Blue to consider and plan more programs.

ACTION ITEM: Blue to report on usefulness of Google Calendar with managing practices.

RED REPORT

Schoolhouse repair list has been provided by Geko. Main priorities are roof, driveway, and the rotting eaves. There are also 2 broken windows in the Schoolhouse, cost about \$2,000.

ACTION ITEM: Cindy to find out if these things can be included in the Grant.

KHANDROLING ROAD

- Paving starts the 3rd and ends the 10th of October. Road will be closed. The last two days the ATV can go up.
- Fundraising: Al Daggett will start raising \$20,000 for Cabin and the Road. He will contact our top 50 donors with phone numbers and emails.

ACTION ITEM: Cindy will send out announcement to Community about the road closing.

KEEPING GAR CLEAN

- 4 Red Gakyil did a lot of heavy cleaning yesterday.
- **4** Geko will provide task lists for guests while they stay.
- If Amanda wants to clean then Amanda should send in a proposal and then the Gakyil can approve or not.
- Geko closed down two stalls in the basement bathroom because we have too many toilets.
- 4 Important that people let Geko or Gakyil know when something is broken
- Board Members like Amanda can be paid for services if their cost is lower than commercial prices.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Red Gakyil would like to call a collaboration meeting with everyone who works and lives there and have people adopt a little part of the Gar to keep clean.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: Figure out cleaning situation with Amanda if not someone else. Yellow will deliberate and get back to Red on Amanda's proposal.

RETREAT SET UPS

- 4 Cindy of Red Gakyil volunteers to do Teacher Care because Blue Gakyil is really busy.
- **4** Sometimes Teacher Care is exchanged for course participation and this will continue.

Maintenance of Properties

- Yellow requests software update from Joe Zurylo and Amanda of Facilities Maintenance Plan update. There were two teams, Development Plan and Maintenance Plan, Yellow wants to know how much it costs to maintain things every year for Red in terms of properties.
- Today there is \$700 from accommodations for 2016. Last year it was at \$6,000 at this time.

ACTION ITEM: Yellow to obtain information from Joe and Amanda.

ACTION ITEM: Jeremy to prepare spreadsheet of income and receivables for accommodations

YELLOW

DzamlingGar House - Booking:

- It is really complex to keep track of all of this and she is looking into a program to manage it. It costs \$99 per month for program.
- Two kitchens were installed in the TE house. Kyu, in exchange for staying in DzamlingGar, will go complete furnishings.
- First booking is November 28, 2016. One idea is that people pay 50% when they reserve and 50% before they arrive.
- **4** Gakyil votes to pay the \$99/month for the Booking system.

ACTION ITEM: Dominik will check where the money goes from rentals of Dzamlinggar.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- \$80,000 in our account. \$28,000 extra has been donated for the road paving, and \$5,200 in Paypal. Prediction is \$55,000 in our account entering 2017.
- 2017 is a crucial year to reduce costs and increase fundraising. Blue suggests that if people have plans to submit them to the Gakyil.
- **4** To survive beyond 2017 we need to increase income and cut expenses
- DonorPerfect is a possibility; it's a program to efficiently keep our Membership data. There's a shopping cart that goes directly through Paypal and into Quickbooks automatically.

ACTION ITEM: Yellow and Tim to continue evaluating Donorperfect.

WHOLE GAKYIL

IG Letter

- Core issues that prompted IG move? What happened is mentioned in the letter from the Gakyil to the Community. Problems with decision making about real estate, tensions between community and Gakyil and within the Gakyil. Rinpoche saw all of that and paused our transition saying we are in a "mirage." What are our steps to get out of the "mirage?"
 - Everyone in the Community is encouraged to do Vajrasattva's daily for a month. It was suggested by Kundrolling to do daily Ganapuja's.
- Diane talked to Scott Townell who said that the most successful Gars, whenever there's an issue, people talk about it and release it and go on instead of breaking into smaller groups and not talking and letting it fester. There was a coach facilitator who met with the Merigar West Gakyil on how to fix relations between Gakyil and community. They agreed to send someone here for expenses only. Would it be good to have someone outside the community to come in and help release tensions?

ACTION ITEM: Diane volunteers to reach out about the success of a mediator at Merigar.

<u>ACTION ITEM</u>: To be didactic, we should find a segment from the Mirror that directly relates to this and send it out. Blue will do this.

Preparation of Plan and Budget

- This Plan and Budget is required by the IG. In order to be in line with their policies we must do this. This means that all 266 members get to vote on this plan in December and if it gets voted down we have to go back, redo it and vote on it again. Each color needs to come up with plan and budget and Yellow will work on budgets, membership, and fundraising plans. Red and Blues plans are required so that we can budget appropriately. We need preliminary plans by October to start doing this.
- Gakyil should listen to recordings of our 2014 and 2015 meetings with Rinpoche to use them as our future starting points for 2017 Strategic Plan.

ACTION ITEM: Each color to submit preliminary plan and budget by October Gakyil Meeting.