

## Gakyil Minutes – 12/17/17 12:30

Present: Al Daggett, Bret Bourman, Diane Kramer, Ed Matheny, Miranda Shannon, Nancy Paris, Dominik Niceva

Absent: Tsegyalgar Secretary; Diane Kramer took notes

Moderator: Miranda

Guru Yoga

'About Gakyil meetings' **Decisions:**

- Rotate moderator at each Gakyil meeting.
- Official meetings at or near third Sunday in month at 12:30.
- Unofficial short meetings weekly at 6:00 on Tuesdays.
- Same policy as last year – anyone can attend Gakyil meetings; to speak, send in request to secretary in advance.

Next scheduled meeting - Jan 21,12;30

Short Membership Report – 262 members

- **Action Item: Al from Yellow will call the 13 who were members in 2016 and did not enroll in membership in 2017 – to gather info re reasons.**

Geko Report: Request from Jeremy to stay in Schoolhouse for two months max to help transition and do basic chores (karma yoga):

- **Decision:** approved subject to review monthly and to list of karma yoga tasks approved by Gakyil.
- **Action Item: Jeremy will submit list of karma yoga tasks to accomplish: Jeremy's suggested tasks:**
  - Organize trash and take trash to transfer station
  - Do snow shoveling and salting
  - Will help with transfer of information re maintenance manual
  - Lights off and thermostats off
  - Other?

Miranda: need review of Geko responsibilities from Bret in order to send out request for new Geko

- **Action Item:** Bret to send updated Geko responsibilities to Gakyil

## Whole Gakyil

Gakyil Officers:

- Secretary) needs to be located in Commonwealth of MA
- Bret suggested that the Gakyil consider resuming its responsibility of gathering its own agenda items and recording its minutes
  - Clerk (Board Secretary) is responsible for meeting minutes according to bylaws – discussion follows
  - AI says Clerk can delegate to Staff member
  - **Decision** - Clerk will oversee that minutes get circulated, approved and posted; Clerk to delegate minute-taking to DCA admin/secy.
- Election of Gakyil Officers
  - President – Miranda Shannon
  - Secretary – Alex Daggett
  - Treasurer – Ed Matheny
- **Action Item: *Change of Directors*** form needs to be filed with the Office of the Secretary of the CoM– Please send all addresses to AI
- **Action Item – IDC Protocol needs to be signed by all Directors; Dominik is responsible to circulate**
- **Decision:** Request to check our progress re Strategic Plan goals on a monthly basis at Gakyil approved; update to be given by Color

## Blue Gakyil – Miranda, Nancy

- Had fact-finding Friends of Blue meeting re needs
- Will have complete calendar for 2018 by February
- Will send out request to members re what is important to them
- Had meeting with YY and VD teachers
- Working on upcoming programs – Holiday Sangha Retreat; Summer Celebration
- Talking with Paula on deepening Yantra Yoga
- Talking re Losar
- Nancy and Miranda will collaborate with Bret regarding Losar
- Figuring out parameters and expectations re SSI – how we can help them

- Summer Sangha retreat – right after holidays we will organize
- Outreach – to fine tune and update mentors program
- Looking at all materials Tim has been sending out
- Outreach – reaching out to colleges, universities, dharma centers
  - Looking for volunteers
  - Fine-tuning website and social media
  - Asking Tim to sort through WWT people
  - Understanding needs of current members
  - Why past members are past members
- Document sharing and multimedia
  - Distant and new members
    - New webcasting of collective practices – what can we add?
    - Summer Practices at the Vajra Hall - Would like Solar Panel or Wind Power with WiFi hot spot for webcasting of Collective practices and projection of Khaita - also possibility of having two setups (one for schoolhouse and one for the Vajra Hall)
    - We want to webcast to distant members from Vajra Hall – high priority Red item
  - **Action Item: check out Zoom for replacement of Webex – whole Gakyil**
- Basecamp vs. Google doc
  - Basecamp can keep conversations
  - Google docs cannot
  - **Action Item: Whole Gakyil to check out Google docs and its parameters for storing document; Folders? How different from Basecamp? How much the same?**
- Need review of Geko responsibilities from Bret in order to incorporate them into geko job description. Geko job request must continue to be sent out, even if description is not fully updated. Position needs to be filled as soon as possible. Job description updates can be done concurrently.
- **Strategic Plan:**
  - **Action Item: Yellow requests Blue to submit Goals for 2018 referencing Strategic Plan.**

- Outreach/Visibility plan
- Communication plan for new possible members, new members and ongoing distant
- Programs

### Red Gakyil - Bret

- Update and gather data for development and maintenance schedule
  - **Action Item: Bret has amassed much information from various parties and will create a development and maintenance schedule**
    - He will implement using open-source software.
    - **Action Item: Bret will look into online booking system**
- Discussion – possibilities for using properties to generate substantial returns
  - What is allowable re rental of our space?
    - Ex. Rowe conference center
  - What is circumstances with solicitation to the public
    - Ex. Could outside organizations come and use facilities?
  - Dorms and retreat cabins have been used for members only – Dominik
    - Schoolhouse & dorms – mixed; students of Shang Shung
  - Khandroling is open during the winter – open land
  - Dominik - it will be strange if someone is doing a retreat
  - Bret - maybe mixed usage in some limited amount. If well-scheduled, and we have apps for registration, we can manually black-out a calendar to display available dates of our choosing;
  - Al – who is going to take care; who will manage
  - Bret – will be collaborative effort
  - Nancy & Miranda - This can work into SSF/SSI public programs.
  - Bret - If we wanted to open a dialogue with dharmic organizations, we could **host them**, or join together in collaborative events with them.
  - Bret presents the Gakyil with its request for a visual plan regarding Strategic Plan Items: *Sustainability* and the *Revitalization of Schoolhouse*. He produced a detailed, architectural floor plan of first stages of the project which included the repurposing of ground floor spaces, including a new Bookstore/Cafe, Library/Contemplative Study Hall,

Reception/Gathering area, Commons/Gallery, SSF/IDC Office, School Office/ Consultation area, Massage Room, and MultiPurpose Classroom. He has discussed with Geko, Secretary, Marit Cranmer, SSF's Librarian, and Dr. Wangmo, who all approve. Dr. Wangmo will consult with the SSF's board upon Gakyil decision. He says changes will not be structural, so will not involve town; says changes will involve getting permission from Town to install signs at RT116 announcing bookstore/café/massage/yoga/meditation, etc. Calls for inspections to the Dept. of Health will be required for the cafe, as well as a Safe Serve certification. The IDC's would need to submit of a Multiple Therapist Massage Establishment License application. Both actions are to follow the spaces' repurposing.

- **Decision:** continue with ongoing discussion in informal meeting
- **Action Item: AI requests financial plan from Bret re changes**
- **Action Item: Yellow requests Red send in Goals for year 2018, referencing Strategic Plan**

#### **Yellow Gakyil – AI, Diane, Ed**

- Financial update given – we will go into 2018 with 25k to 30k to carry forward
- Yellow presents 2018 budget of 192k (income and expenses).
  - Discussion of need to become sustainable
  - Discussion of fund-raising monies vs. moneys from retreats and trainings
  - **Action item: Blue and Red need to send budget requests to Yellow to include in 2018 Budget**
  - **Decision: Preliminary 2018 Budget approved**
- Before end of year, loan monies will be wired to Meriling for loan payment; Gompa monies will be wired to Meriling re monies for more shares
- Yellow to have Webex meeting with accountant, Ed Margola
- Yellow presents Goals for 2018; Preliminary Goals for Year for Yellow Gakyil:
  - Completed budget, including needs of other colors
  - Fund-raising plan, created and carried out, to fill our shortfall
  - Membership drive for 2018
  - Review of bookkeeping, accounting function – re more efficient software systems, cost savings
  - Review of salaries of Geko, Secretary
  - Monthly financials delivered to Gakyil; quarterly update to all members
  - Review of Basecamp important documents – update
  - Other financial and legal requirements, as needed
  - Start of Business Initiatives Project (from Strategic Plan)
- **Decision: Yellow Goals approved by Gakyil**