

## **Governing Council Meeting Minutes**

**August 10, 2020**

Attendance: Kathy Meade, Karen Monahan, Judi Soule, Peggy Christian, Frank Sanfilippo, Joan Carney, Kit St. John, Sarah Chandler

After meditation and check-in, meeting called to order at 6:45pm

### **Finance**

Peggy reported there is a current balance of \$14173 in our bank and stated this does not include a deduction of \$799 for the five-part Hinayana video series that was recently ordered from Shambhala Online.

Kit reported on Mason Street building status. There is now a "For Sale" sign in front and it has been shown 3 or 4 times. It is felt that established tenants in the building are appealing to prospective buyers.

There was discussion about the excess of zabutons and cushions owned by the Center. In addition to those at the Center, some are in Portland in various locations and Anna Blash has ten on loan. Should we sell some of them? Or loan? Kudra and Ian would like 20. No decision was made for now.

### **Reopening Center Update**

Kathy reported on the recommendations of the Reopening Committee. Starting in September, we will open for the first Thursday and Sunday sittings of the month. These will be hybrid sessions, maintaining the Zoom schedule of 6:30 – 7:30pm and 9 – 10:30am, respectively. The umdze will be responsible for laptop setup for Zoom participation. A gatekeeper will be in attendance to assure that safe COVID-19 protocol is maintained. A maximum of ten participants (including umdze and gatekeeper) in the shrine room is set and preregistration was discussed. Based on the outcome of September sittings, October in-person sessions may be increased from first Thursday and Sunday to first and third.

### **Programming**

The first in the series of Foundations for Freedom video series will begin on September 15 for five weeks. Offered by Judi Soule and Kathy Meade. Frank would like to host a four-week men's group but a start date has not been established.

Kit reported on the four-session meditation instruction group he is leading on Zoom through Woodford's Church. There are ten participants.

Kathy proposed that a Harvest of Peace gathering take place at her home in West Bath. Her husband would like to have a barbeque and share food. It was discussed that food from one source would be safer than potluck. The date is September 19.

Kathy brought up the topic of the new Care and Conduct policy. She would like the Center to consider programming around the policy.

The Use of Power pilot program that some are already enrolled in was discussed and it was recommended that others be invited to attend. Kit will contact Shambhala Online to determine if attendance can be opened to all members and then send out an invitation letter.

The value of encouraging participation in the next Theory U program was also discussed.

**Next meeting: September 14, 2020, 6:30 (meeting date changed to September 16)**

**Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm**

Respectfully submitted: Sarah Chandler

Minutes approved by the Governing Council on 10/19/20