



Wet Mountain Sangha
Steering Committee
03/15/15

Minutes

Present: Mike Guagliardo, Doug Mesner, Diane Mesner, Kayci Barnett, Ed Neugebauer, Jan Meserve, Kerry Kramer, Merrilee Barnett, David Cockrell, Barbara Billstrand, Sarah Bender, Andrew Palmer

1. **Maintenance at CIP.** Doug volunteered to coordinate a basement clean-up once a month, including cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming, cleaning the kitchen, and picking up. Kayci volunteered to also be on the basement committee. David volunteered to participate in the CIP work day once it is scheduled, and to recruit volunteers. The SC also agreed to get the grass mowed once a month on a rotating basis with the CIP.
2. **Summer retreat** Concerns:
 - a. Concerns about a common understanding of the purposes for the retreat
 - b. Concerns about the limitations on capacity, in the dorm and the zend
 - c. Concerns about bathrooms, especially at the zendo
 - d. Reconnaissance trip committee: Kate, Jan, Kayci, Ed, Lois, David. David will contact Marianne and Don and reschedule the trip as soon as possible.

The SC decided to delegate to the reconnaissance committee authority to decide if Don and Marianne's Center would be suitable for the retreat, after a thorough visit and talk with Don and Marianne. After the visit the group will communicate with Andrew, and Andrew may want to take a look at the site before a final decision is made.

3. **Buddha and Bell Committee:** Approximately \$230 remains in the Bell and Buddha fund, collected from sangha members for this purpose. Mike and David have bowed out of the committee. The SC agreed to begin to search for a bell. David will scout out a store in Denver that Andrew recommended for affordable bells. Merrilee recommended that this topic be added to the next SC committee agenda.
4. **Mike discussed getting teacher information on the website**, and arrangements were made for this information to be provided. Kate will continue to send out announcements for sangha events.
5. **A few notes from the Leader Training** with Sarah and Andrew:
 - a. We will continue to close our services with three bells and bows. Leaders may briefly describe the rationale for the third bell at the end of our services at the "sharing time" for the next few months, to help participants understand the meaning of the three bells. Alternatively, just before 4 Boundless Vows, leaders may simply say that there are three bells to end the service.
 - b. The bell sequence during the Gate Gate in the Heart Sutra is *ONLY* rung on the third verse.
 - c. Two additional open bells are to be added before the first sutra chanted in any service. These two are also added before the *4 Boundless Vows* at the end of the service, as time has elapsed since the earlier part of the service.

- d. We are now not lighting incense at any time. Practice leaders will burn incense in an outdoor offering after the service.
- e. Greeters should use the exact protocol for tea service in the passing out of sutra books. Greeters should enter the hall, bow to the altar, go to the altar on the side of the hall, turn through the altar, bow to the hall, turn back through the altar, and hand out sutra books, beginning with the practice leader for the night.

Respectfully submitted, David