

Community meeting Oct 12, 2014

#### BOARD REPORT:

- we are operating with a month to month balance of around \$ 6000 in our checking account. All categories of activities: sitting, classes, and retreats, are all paying for them selves on a donation basis
- -our 501(3)c application has been approved! We are now an officially a non-profit organization, thanks to Pat and the board.

#### COMMUNITY RESPONSE:

- the circle directed the board to come up with a simple, annual report that can be posted on the web site. We may want a more detailed, event by event inflow and outflow for community purposes, to guide decision making for future events and for financial transparency. We also want to discuss how much balance we should be carrying in our account to be financially stable.
- as we have an early Sunday teacher training circle that meets every other Sunday, and a monthly community meeting after the sitting, we decided to offer harmony Yoga an increase in our rent to \$200 per month to reflect this.

#### COMMUNITY VISIONING:

We spent the remainder of the meeting looking at the following two questions about where we are and how we want to develop. Below are the responses to each:

How are things going for IMA2? What's working, what's feeding you? What do you like that is being offered?

- Sunday sittings
- Ease of communication
- Positive energy
- Dharma talks, both live and the web site audio recordings
- Variation of classes and sittings
- Outside speakers, both in house on Sundays and public events
- Things offered at different times for different schedules
- Feels like a community
- Extra curriculars: book group, Hunger walk, potlucks, sangha stitchers
- Trust and openness
- Open heartedness
- We have no fees for activities, everything is on a donation basis
- Retreats
- Getting weekly inspiration to carry into the week
- Spiritual friendships
- Community decision making and meetings

- Community led activities
- Learning for everyone in the circle, not just teachers

What would you like to see develop? How could we meet needs?

- better at welcoming new persons into the sittings, making more outreach.
- Encourage folks in beginning classes to come to sittings and events
- Reach out to younger people
- Special shorter Sunday sitting for new meditators?
- Childcare for Sunday sitting
- Transportation to sittings and classes
- Spiritual friend groups
- Parenting group
- Some way for people to express their individual needs: perhaps a bulletin board?
- More personal outreach and connection
- Develop connections with other Midwest sanghas.