

May 3, 2015 Community Meeting

Board/Treasurer Report:

- ❖ The term of service on the Board is formalized at 2 years. Phil K. and Pat C.'s terms will be up in September. The Board will organize a nominating committee to recruit replacements.
- ❖ The current cash balance (as of May 1) is \$8,392.58
Donations from the retreat covered expenses and Susan and Lou generously donated the teacher dana balance to the Sangha to be used for renovation of our new space at Calvary Methodist.

Retreat:

- ❖ All spaces were filled and there was a waiting list. A majority of the attendees were not from the sangha and some came from various parts of the State.
 - Although registration is open to sangha members before it is open to others, some of the sangha were not able to commit in time and were closed out.
 - An attempt will be made to try to further accommodate sangha members first in the future. A suggestion was made that once registration becomes open to non-sangha members, that the available # for registration should be reduced by several, until nearer the time of retreat to allow later sangha member registration. If there are still open spaces closer to the time of the retreat, the wait list can be utilized to fill those spaces.
 - Tom S. is going to continue as Retreat Committee Chair, but we are actively looking for a new retreat manager for the October retreat. Thank you to Dawn L. for handling that important job.
 - Anyone interested in taking on that position or serving in some capacity on the Retreat Committee, please step forward.

Cushions:

- ❖ All of the cushions have been utilized during recent Sunday Sittings and the decision was made to purchase 6 more. Before the order is placed, it will be announced at the Sunday Sitting and anyone interested in purchasing a set for themselves may do so at the same time.

Time for Sunday Sittings:

- ❖ Late last summer, it was decided to move the Community Meetings from before the Sunday Sitting at 9:00 to after, at 11:30 for the bad weather months, on the theory that it would make it easier for people to attend. The question was posed whether to move the meetings back to 9:00 during the good weather months, but the group consensus was that the later time is better because attendance has been greater since changing to 11:30.

Space at Calvary Methodist Church:

- ❖ It was clear at the Community Meeting held after the pot luck at the church, that there were mixed feeling about the new space.
 - There was general agreement that, in theory, having a single, dedicated space of our own, with access to kitchen, more bathrooms & child care space – at a price we can afford – is a positive development. However, there were reservations about some issues, primarily noise.
 - Terry G. presented a proposal for a 3 stage process of renovation that would allow us to move ahead with the hope & expectation that the problems could be worked out. The worst that could happen would be that after a trial year, if it didn't work out, we would have given up some labor and some money, but would be no worse off than we are now.
 - **Stage 1**
 - What we feared was mold, is simply mildew and that can be taken care of by a good cleaning and the use of a de-humidifier.
 - The first step in dealing with the noise issue is 2 solid core doors (already purchased by Terry), carpeting and installment of a drop-ceiling. Terry's colleagues from the Interfaith Community have generously offered to work with him on installing the ceiling.
 - There is also some minor electrical work that Terry is also able to handle.
 - It was agreed that Joy N. and Jacqui G. will be asked to serve as a decorating Committee to choose colors for carpet and paint.
 - **Stage 2**
 - If noise is still an issue, sound abatement insulation can be installed above the drop-ceiling for about \$600.
 - **Stage 3**
 - A more radical measure, which we hope not to have to take, would be to construct, in effect, a room within a room by putting up new interior walls.
 - ❖ The agreed upon timeline is:
 - May – clean mildew, install carpeting and paint
 - June – install drop-ceiling
 - July – start paying rent
 - ❖ **WE WILL ASK FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THESE TASKS.
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU – TERRY!!!**
- We also invite anyone so motivated, to contribute a donation to be earmarked specifically for renovations.
- ❖ The suggestion was made to have an Open House/Workshop in July or August to introduce non-sangha members to us and to our facility and give them a chance to learn about us and what we have to offer