

Insight Meditation Ann Arbor

Community Meeting February 7, 2016

Board/Treasurer's Report

- Richard K. reported that the current bank balance is about \$6,000. Revenue and expenses are on track.
- An additional \$550 (not included in the above balance) has been donated to the Space Enhancement Fund

Teacher Report

- Susan W. reported that new teachers, Kristi and Dawn taught their first class. However, since they will not be available to teach evening classes, all of their classes will necessarily be in the daytime or on weekends.

Building Committee

- There was a discussion of noise levels from the church during the Sunday Sitting and what can be done to alleviate it.
 - White noise machines are a possibility
 - The need for fans for both white noise and air circulation purposes was mentioned.
 - Janet has a standing fan that she will donate for us to try
 - The general consensus was that a box of soft foam earplugs be left near the door for anyone who wants to use them.
- Because of safety concerns with the driveway and lighting at the front entrance of the building leading to the front door, we are going to request that everyone start using the parking lot entrance to the building. Susan will communicate our concerns to the Church and let them know that we will be making this change.

Room Use Policy

- General agreement in favor of Susan's suggestion that we implement a once-a-month Friday evening social/sharing event. This could utilize some of the expertise and interests within our community by opportunities for presentations and discussions; book events; videos to watch and discuss, etc. An example might be a talk by Sister Pine who has lived for years in Plum Village.
- Anyone interested in presenting or sponsoring a Friday evening event should contact Susan.
- For any event to which visitors outside the sangha may be attending, someone should be posted at the door to welcome and be sure that shoes are removed.
- Susan suggested inviting members of Still Mountain to a Friday night informal social gathering with, perhaps, a 15 minute sitting. There was general agreement to the plan.
- Sheryl Kurze will be presenting and facilitating a discussion of Atul Gawande's book, Being Mortal, on Friday, March 11 at 7 pm. Janet, Joy and Christine will arrive early to assist in setup and welcoming attendees. If Sheryl has a flier, we will post at the Church.

Child Care

- The issue of child care during the Sunday Sitting remains on the agenda as a priority item. However, the details still need to be worked out. Lou has taken the lead in this process so far, but he is away for the next month and it would be helpful if a couple of people would step forward to assist in developing a plan.
- An important focus is to ensure that the parents have an opportunity to attend the Sitting without having to be involved in the babysitting.
- Susan suggested having a paid youth babysitting assistant to help an adult volunteer. She also suggested choosing 2 families to bring their children for a test run to see how it works out.
- The question of liability was raised. Pat C. believes it is covered by our insurance, but will verify and also see about the necessity and preparation of a standard release form.