

Insight Meditation Ann Arbor
Community Meeting
Minutes
June 5, 2017

Brief Meditation

Call to Order 11:30

Board/Treasurer's Report: Finances continue on an even keel. The Spring retreat costs were more than covered by donations, and the operating and equipment costs are minimal. The cash balance is currently at \$10,986.

Opportunities for new people to serve on the Board are coming up, and several people have expressed interest. Shawn P. may also be leaving which could make as many as 4 openings. The role of meeting leader, currently filled by Janet C., will also be available in September.

Teacher Report: Summer and fall classes are posted on the web. There are plans for a Saturday all-day offering in the fall. The new regular sessions have had fairly steady attendance, often with people who do not come regularly on Sundays. The Monday 5:30 sit has 3-4 people, and the Thursday evening has 5-7. The teachers are planning to start a sign-up sheet, anyone who has practiced regularly could offer to lead one of these sits.

Considering the amount of time our teachers offer to the community, it is proposed to utilize some of the funds available to cover expenses for further training at retreats or other opportunities.

Space Enhancement Committee: the bike rack and the rug have both been put in place. Many thanks to Phil K. and to Joy N. There is room for a second bike rack if need develops. Phil observed that his efforts to save money by shopping online were in fact wasted, he got a better price from a local business. The dehumidifier will soon be in service, and Terry G. is building some custom pallets to store the cushions off the floor.

Old Business: Terry G. has a plan for the winter heat evacuation problem, and should have it in place before the next heating season.

New Business: Sheryl K. brought up her wish to mobilize the community, and some of

the budget surplus, in outreach to other groups that are underserved and would offer us an opportunity to build mindful community links. She shared her experience on the outreach committee of her Congregational Church, and the crying need for more human interaction that some groups, like the Whitehall elder home, have— and the opportunities for rewarding interaction. Something as simple as coming in to help paint dilapidated shutters, and being present with the residents, many of whom rarely see anyone other than staff, can make a big difference. The meeting discussed options, of rotating days of service among various groups, like Meals on Wheels, or of focusing on an organization like Whitehall. How much of the “kitty” would be appropriate to dedicate, was also discussed. Cheryl offered to write something up about this.

Susan W. relayed the hope for formation of a new Family Group, that will meet on Sunday afternoons and organize childcare. Community members interested would be welcome to attend and/or volunteer for the children.

Phil K. brought up a 5 year anniversary! IMA2 was founded in August of 2012. A sort of Recognition Party is in order. All concurred. August 13th or 20th was suggested, and we are looking into possible venues.

Adjournment 12:25

Respectfully submitted,

Janet C.