

CCC Meeting for 3/19/20 Meeting Notes

Bill Markey prepared the agenda and led the Zoom meeting.

Attendees: Bill Markey, Martha O'Grady, Linda Bennett, Patricia (Red) Redshaw, George Hoguet and Robear. Dawn Lehman joined briefly.

Bill Markey prepared the agenda and led the meeting. We began with a bell and the reading of the Mindful Minute guidelines.

Ongoing items

1. The CCC approved two donations of \$500 each to the Monastic Health Care Fund and Blue Cliff Monastery. Kate Fissel, Chair of the Finance Committee, has since made the contributions and shared a lovely thank you video with the Sangha via the list serve.
2. We discussed the contract for the Fall retreat at Kerns Spirituality Center. Laura will send it to Red who will sign the contract and forward it to Kate to send in with a deposit check. The Fall Retreat is scheduled for November 23 to 25, 2020.
3. Based on the new organization of the Sangha, we will hold two gatherings in 2020. A Day of Listening will give members an opportunity to share and reflect on the health and direction of our community. This will be followed by a "non-business business meeting" to address the practicalities (forming committees and work groups etc.) of continuing existing practices and bringing any new initiatives to life. These will be held at Church of the Redeemer on September 26 and November 7.
4. The CCC postponed discussion of summer and winter socials until our June 4 meeting.
5. We reviewed committee needs. We encourage any willing sangha members to assist with the Closing committee and to contact Laura Langer to donate or request for additional information. It seems preferable to have one group of individuals for opening and a different group for closing.

New items

6. Weekly sitting and Covid19 influence:
The Committee approved continuing to pay rent for Church of the Redeemer and South Hills to support them in this time of economic hardship.

A weekly Tuesday night online sitting will continue being held using Laughing Rivers' Zoom account. Many thanks to George and Red for doing the groundwork to make this possible.

Deborah suggested that the Sangha purchase a copy of "In the Footsteps of Thich Nhat Hanh," the on-line offering from Lion's Roar and TNH Foundation for \$ 179. The CCC was receptive to the idea but wasn't sure if a copy could be added to our library for all

to share or if it would be restricted to a single account. George offered to follow up. Linda may purchase a copy for use during South Hills sittings.

The Monday night sangha has been invited to join us on Tuesday nights and they have access to the Laughing Rivers Zoom account to hold their Monday night sessions. At the time of the meeting, LRS-South was sitting in their respective homes at the same time without computer involvement.

George offered to hold a Zoom training session for the facilitators (which was subsequently held on Monday, March 30.)

7. Spring Retreat and Covid19 influence:

Due to uncertainty about when social distancing will cease, Laughing Rivers will offer a single Day of Mindfulness on Saturday, May 9 in place of its typical Spring commuter retreat.

George offered retreat suggestions based on Earth Holder retreats. RoBear noted the challenges of teaching on-line and Red suggested showing a video by Thay.

The actual length, content and shape of the retreat will be determined by the Retreat Committee and the Practice Council.

As a follow up, we contacted Chan Huy who is happy to present a dharma talk for the Spring DOM and suggested referring to the E-talk schedule for choice of topic and readings.

8. Online (website, zoom etc.) orientation.

People who ask to sit with Laughing Rivers for the first time should still receive an orientation from one of our orientation committee members. These will be done however and whenever it is most convenient for the people involved.

9. New items submitted since invitation

George suggested the sangha consider adding another evening of sitting, possibly to play videos by Thay and other teachers in the Plum Village tradition. As the Pandemic continues, additional sittings and DOMs may manifest if people have the desire and energy to make them happen.

The meeting concluded with a bell, bows and smiles.

Future CCC meeting dates are scheduled for 6/4/20, 9/17-20, 12-10-20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and all are invited to attend.