

CCC Meeting 1/29/2013

5:30-6:45 Aladdin's Eatery, Squirrel Hill

Attendees: George H, Kate F, Jen W, Red, David B ;

Kate F facilitated the meeting. Notes taken by Jen W.

Agenda:

- Logistics of future meetings
- Review the responsibility of the CCC
- Review Annual Meeting notes for action items for the CCC

Logistics of future meetings:

- It was agreed by all attendees that Tuesday evenings before the sitting works best for all.
- It was agreed to start meetings promptly at 5:30, with attendees trying to arrive by 5:15.
- We will try to always schedule the next meeting at the end of the current meeting.
- Locations were discussed and the idea to meet at the new Dobra Tea House where George will be working would suit our needs. We could have a private meeting room, and food items will be available there for those who are hungry. Purchasing food first at a counter rather than having a waitress might allow for a more fluid meeting and discussion.
- Each meeting will be facilitated by one of us, and another member will take notes. The note taker will then be the facilitator of the next meeting.

CCC Responsibility

- Kate reminded us that the CCC is responsible for finding a means for the actions of the CCC to take place, which, as suggested by Tony, may be delegated to another committee for seeing the action through. The CCC's job is to figure out who to delegate the tasks to.
- Kate: The content for the CCC is from the annual meeting and also from items that come up during the year by sangha members.
- Red: The goal is to carry out the sangha's wishes as they were laid out at the annual meeting.
- The idea was discussed whether the CCC should be proactive with creating items and tasks. Red reminded us that it is important that the tasks or items are a reflection of the sangha's needs, and those things that come up during the year that might be issues for the CCC to address need to be brought to the sangha for discussion.
- David reminded us that the member care committee was created out of the CCC's recognition for the need of such a committee.
- Kate: We can invite all sangha members to come to any CCC meeting. This has not happened as much recently, but perhaps we could offer more inclusivity with invitations and announcements to the meeting to welcome others to attend.

- David: We should let people know what they will be walking into when they come to a CCC meeting.
- Kate: A verbal announcement might work better than an email announcement to invite people to the meeting, though both should be done.
- Red: It is important to let people know that they are invited to come, and that they can bring issues to the meeting for the CCC to address, and also to let people know what we do as a CCC.
- Kate: It will also be nice to tell people that the meetings are informal.
- George: If an issue were brought up at the annual meeting or some other form by a sangha member that the CCC will be discussing, we should invite that member to the meeting.
- Kate: This could create a theme for the meeting, and it can be helpful to let people know what that theme is.

Topics for CCC

- Days of Mindfulness:
 - Kate wondered if this is an action for the practice council.
 - DOM were discussed, but then it was recognized at the end that this is an issue for the practice council, and it is being addressed and organized.
 - no action is needed by the CCC.
- Sangha Social:
 - We have not had a sangha social for about a year. We could still have one this winter in February or March.
 - Action: Kate will ask for any volunteers tonight at the sit for a winter social. If no one volunteers tonight, an email will be sent to the listserv asking for volunteers. We could also encourage people to share the duties of hosting the social, and we could facilitate the coordination of possible co-hosts.
 - It was suggested that we have an outdoor sangha social. This would be suited for the better weather.
 - Action: We will come back to this after we try to arrange a social for the near future.
- Social Justice:
 - Deb G proposed at the annual meeting the idea of creating a vehicle for our sangha to address social justice issues.
 - Action: We will address this at a future meeting.
- Tony's Dharma Teaching role:
 - How can the sangha benefit from and invite Tony to share his skills as Dharma Teacher
 - Action: This will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Volunteer positions:
 - Are all sangha's volunteer positions filled?
 - Action: Kate will look at the roster and discern this for our group.

- Financial Sustainability of the sangha?
 - There are questions regarding our financial stability. There are changes to cash flow, such as increased dana to Chan Huy, decrease dana from Tuesday night sittings, and continued deficits from residential retreats, though there was a profit from the day retreat.
 - It was questioned the amount of increase of dana to Chan Huy, and how this was decided, and if this amount is appropriate if we might be less stable financially.
 - Red and David suggested that the Tuesday night leaders could be more assertive in asking for donations on Tuesday evening, with more focus on the need for donations.
 - David wondered about the role of offering scholarships for retreats, and what the current state is of this offering.
 - Jen suggested that perhaps the profit gained from the commuter retreat might offset the loss from the residential retreat, and that this should be looked at by the financial committee.
 - Red reminded us that the sangha put much more effort into marketing the retreats this past year, and this did not effectively increase the attendance at the residential retreat.
 - Action: We will invite Bill to attend the next CCC meeting to discuss the financial stability of the sangha.
 - Action: George, also a member of the financial committee will get a financial report to the CCC.
- Sangha trip to Blue Cliff
 - Action: Will be addressed at future meeting
- Member Care update:
 - Action: Red will ask for a member care update for the CCC
- Practice Council update:
 - Action: Red will update the CCC at our next meeting.
- Explanation of CCC to the Sangha
 - It is recognized that for the purposes of inclusivity and welcoming members to interact with and understand the CCC, that we need to communicate the purpose of the CCC to the sangha.
 - Action: Jen will find a succinct summary of the CCC that has been written and share with the sangha via email in preparation for the next CCC meeting.
- Next Meeting:
 - 5:15 arrival at Dobra Tea House in Squirrel Hill
 - Meeting will be facilitated by Jen W.