

CCC Meeting 04/09/2013

**Facilitator:** George H

**Attendees:** Kate F, Red P, Jen W, David B

**Scribe (note taker):** David B.

**Meeting Place:** Alladins, Sq. Hill 5:15-6:45 p.m.

**AGENDA:**

1. Old Business: Past and future DOMS, status of upcoming Retreat (May 9-11, 2013 at Nuin Center); status and update of informal Sangha gathering at Dunkin Donuts in Sq. Hill.
2. New Business: General and interrelated discussion around Chan Huy's financial relationship to LRS, status of LRS finances, past financial "agreement" with CH at last 2 retreats for services offered re: dana to CH for work rendered to Sangha at retreat and other activities performed during his time in Pittsburgh.

---

1. Old Business:

- A. Recent DOM: George informed that there were 9 attendees at the last in-home DOM at Ragu and his wife's dwelling on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Due to technical difficulties CH's e-talk could not be transmitted but a selected Dharma teacher gave a spirited talk on the intended topic, "Why Meditate?"
- B. Bonnie has been asked to host an upcoming DOM although no date has been set; she will need some Sangha support (how to set it up, structure the day, etc.) as she is relatively new to our group; it was not clarified if she has accept to host. **David will check with Bonnie regarding her interest and a possible date that works for her schedule.**
- C. George note that Nuin has been approached to provide space (\$20/hr. to rent). This would be a day long of ( mindfulness) August and November are possible times of Nuin's availability. Red noted that this new format (day long, external facility) would include Tony S performing in his newly ordained role as dharma teacher. Also noted was the possible use of Squirrel Hill Professional Suite (where Kathy works at Gateway Rehab) in the future for DOM's. **Red will check with Kathy regarding the facility's availability in the future and will take this item to the practice Council for discussion and follow up.**
- D. Update on upcoming 5/09-5/11 local retreat with CH: George reported that assignments have been given out and fliers have been sent out. At present the flier of this retreat is not currently on the website and Red inquired whether Bill M needs assistance managing the site. .
- E. The informal social gathering (open to all in the Sangha) at Dunkin Donuts on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues of the month has been ongoing for the last 2-3 weeks and those attending have enjoyed it.
- F. Kate F noted that there has been insufficient interest from anyone to host the Winter Social. CCC agreed that we will plan for a Summer Social, possible at an outdoor facility or park. David raised the importance of publicizing the Summer Social that emphasizes the fun/informal aspects. **Red will check with Martha to inquire about her stated interest to organize a Sangha social event.**
- G. On a related point re: sangha gatherings, on Sunday, May 12 (following the retreat) there is a get together with CH at Tony and Michael's home although it is unclear if it is for those who

have attended the retreat or to include anyone in the Sangha. **David will check with Tony/Michael regarding this.**

2. New Business: CH's financial relationship to sangha, financial viability, etc.

A. CH and Dana: Kate noted that as a past CCC member she was aware that the amount paid to CH was loosely related to how much the retreats took in. The group noted that in the spring, 2012, CH's dana increased by a significant amount (from \$1000 **to** \$2,000). The issue was raised regarding what the agreement actually was and **how** it was reached. Kate suggested that 3 entities, OI, the financial committee, and CCC be involved in discussing how a viable compensation for Chan Huy be decided upon; Jen suggested that a blog could be set up to discuss this matter; no conclusions were reached as to how, going forward, we might decide issues of dana, large financial outlays of money, etc. **The group did decide, however, that as a beginning step Red and George will approach Michael and Tony to inquire about how the initial increase in dana to CH came to be and will report back to the CCC regarding their findings.**

Some guiding questions will prompt the discussion with Tony and Michael:

- . what is the current understanding/relationship of dana and CH?
- . was there any precedent for how the increase in dana to CH was decided?
- . was this amount paid for both retreats last year?
- . concretely is there an expectation to pay CH \$2,000 in the fall?

(update: George and Red met with Tony and Michael 4/9: information is as follows: Sangha paid CH \$2,000 for each of the weeks he was here in 2012. Michael confirmed Kate's point that when the decision was made by the CCC to increase the dana, there was a clear understanding among CCC members that this amount of payment might not be sustained in the future. Tony added that Chan Huy has never had an expectation of any particular amount and they both confirmed that there was no current understanding/expectation about his payment for the upcoming week that he will be here.

B. Related to the issue of dana was the concomitant issue of financial viability, specifically, in what areas do we as a sangha lend financial support? Red in particular asked to what extent do we as a sangha support CH in activities e.g. talks at other locations, mindfulness workshops at Gateway, etc.. This issue of dana to CH took us to the larger question of finances for the sangha: the need to assess our yearly financial outlays (i.e., retreats, dana, donations to monasteries, etc.) so we can assess our viability to pay for various activities and also develop a financial plan in order to decide as a sangha how we would like to allocate our monies. **George will meet with Bill to obtain/discuss information on the financial picture and future forecast.**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. 4/9/2013

Next Meeting: CCC has not decided on a next meeting time although we discussed meeting in May, 2013.