

LAUGHING RIVERS SANGA CCC (CONTINUING CARE COMMITTEE) MEETING MINUTES

3/14/18

Attending: George Hoguet, Martha Cullens, Linda Bennett, Bill Markey, Deborah Brooks.

Unable to attend: Cheryl Hawthorne

The meeting started with a brief sitting, and a reading of the Mindful Meeting Guidelines. The description of the CCC function and what we do and do not do as a committee was also reviewed.

1. There was a brief discussion of who on the committee could serve as contacts for the sangha committees. Marty can serve as contact for Member Care; Deborah for the retreat committee and practice council; George for website; Linda for South Hills sangha; Bill M for finance. Further assignments can be made as needed.
2. Business from last year.
 - 2.1. The enhancing and/or standardizing of the orientation process for LRS and for the South Hills sangha to be addressed by the Practice Council.
 - 2.2. 501c-3. Bill will send out Gina's report to the committee members for further discussion
3. Annual Meeting items: items for follow-up or action
 - 3.1. collection of contact information for a sangha database. It was approved at the annual meeting, George, Claire and Marty could explore who and how this information can be collected; no information will be posted in any form on the internet. Marty reported that they have already begun to collect information from sangha members.
 - 3.2. A general proposal to increase the number of DOMs (Days of Mindfulness) offered. Options discussed at the annual meeting included scheduling them every other month in coordination with OI meetings and/or linking them with the etalks. At the Annual Meeting, George, Marty and Claire assumed responsibility for furthering this item. George and Marty indicated today they will not have time to work on the DOM item, but Marty believes that Claire and Michelle may intend to work on it, and will follow up with them.
 - 3.3. Mindful Way Forward. A number of ideas were advanced at the Annual Meeting about looking collectively at the sangha, and envisioning directions we may wish to move in the future. Suggestions ranged from encouraging more outreach and diversity to creating a Mission Statement for the sangha (who we are and what we do based on our tradition) to reviewing the functions of our committees to clarifying how we can support the practice of all sangha members. One suggestion was that this process could be steered by a small committee of 6-8 people. At the Annual Meeting, there was agreement that this endeavor was not at a decision point, but the CCC was asked to further explore this idea. At our meeting today, George talked about the initiative as a way to envision where we would like to be in 10 years, whether we wanted to grow our membership, and how that would look: satellite sanghas? Additional nights/evenings/times of practice? Marty wants to use Red's idea of starting the process with a Mission Statement for the sangha or defining what the sangha is. Deborah expressed hesitance to address future plans at this time, because the OI and core members of the sangha are prioritizing a process of cultivating more solidity and connection within the group and the sangha; there has been agreement in the core group that this process needs to be cultivated before energy and attention can be directed towards new activities. Bill thought that the Mindful Way Forward could be broken down into smaller parts and addressed by different members of the sangha/committees/subcommittees. The group discussed whether more

intimacy and cohesiveness occurs in the setting of smaller groups, and whether future configurations of the sangha could favor the formation of smaller groups.

4. Marty proposed a new agenda item. She has heard complaints about our current sitting site at Redeemer and believes that the CCC should discuss the concerns and possibly revisit the sangha's decision. There was disagreement about whether this fits the definition of "what the CCC does not do", as outlined in our committee guidelines. Committee members agreed to give some individual thought as to whether we should discuss this at the next meeting.
5. Meeting adjourned with 3 bells. The next meeting will be on April 18 at 7pm, at Deborah's house.