

CCC MEETING MINUTES

11/14/18

Present: Bill M, George, Deborah, Linda, Dawn

Each member reflected on these questions: What is serving us? What would bring us more joy?

1. Bill:
 - Meeting on non-sitting nights
 - Rotation of CCC members
 - Electronic participation
 - Annual meeting: liked committee reviews in advance, and calling for new initiatives
2. Linda:
 - South Hills group is small but close-knit
 - Members are in touch at times other than just the sittings
 - They use the time before the sitting to talk and connect with whoever is there
 - The rest of the evening begins with listening to the great bell chant, then sitting
3. Dawn:
 - Tuesday nights, especially dharma sharing
 - Sangha socials
 - Days of mindfulness
 - Relationships in the sangha
4. Deborah
 - Same as Dawn
5. George:
 - Many things already stated
 - The sangha participating in larger community events
 - More opportunities for social interaction

What would bring more joy?

6. George:
 - More social events/interactions
7. Bill:
 - A study group
 - Providing opportunities to learn/teach more about our tradition
 - Having the autonomy (as the CCC) to change things
 - More social interaction
 - Cultivating more change from within (oneself)
8. Deborah:
 - Ditch the annual meeting OR do it differently, as a visioning process
 - Bring more practice, joy and ease into committee meetings
9. Dawn:
 - The annual meeting is not serving its intended function and creates frustration
 - It would bring about more joy to get clear about that
 - There is a lack of clarity about where and how decisions get made, and this confusion is draining.

- It would be nourishing to clarify what decisions need to be made in the year to come, and how/who will make them
- We don't have natural spaces for having discussions in the larger sangha about things like changing our structure
- Do we need to convene to envision a new structure?
- Do we need to have the CCC propose changes in our structure to the rest of the sangha and get their feedback
- We should send an email on the listserve to the sangha to inform them there will be no annual meeting, and that we are discussing alternatives
- We can bring this discussion/visioning process to Tuesday night sittings

10. George:

- The Earth Holder's sangha went through a process of recruiting a diverse group of members to participate in and provide input into their visioning process
- How connected do we want to be to the meta-sangha?
- Should we think about days of mindfulness for the sangha as an alternative to the annual meeting?

11. Dawn:

- There is a tension in the sangha around the energies of doing more/taking on more vs devoting our energy to strengthening and deepening "the basics"
- Does more involvement with the larger sangha strengthen our community?
- Taking on more tasks can be a daunting proposition for some in the sangha

12. Linda:

- We vision all the time in the south hills sangha

13. Consensus and further questions for future reflection:

- We agree to send out an email to the listserve regarding deferring and changing the annual meeting
- We agree to the idea of bringing this process/discussion into one or more Tuesday night sittings
- We agree to support more days of mindfulness
- We need to think about bringing other sangha members onto the CCC
- We need to think about whether the CCC needs to be restructured
- Do we need to look for more diversity in CCC, i.e. reflect the membership in the sangha (more newer members, younger members?)
- How do we engage perspectives from the sangha in decision-making?
- Originally the CCC would make minor decisions on the behalf of the sangha, with input invited from interested sangha members: the sangha was invited to attend meetings, meeting dates were sent out in advance, minutes posted/sent out promptly
- Polls were sent out for input on important decisions. The CCC's job was to engage the sangha in decision-making
- We want to talk to the sangha about how decisions are made. What decisions need to be made? How would you (the rest of the sangha) want to give input?
- We can do Zoom for a December meeting
- Decisions that need to be made: whether to sign up for Kearns? (kick that back to the retreat committee)
- Whether to continue to sit on Thursday nights (ask the people who have been attending. Ask for input through a sangha poll or ask if there is any objection to stopping?)