

Jan 27, 2022
DCC BoD Meeting

BoD Present: Nicholas Russell, Karen Russell, David Berry, Steven Gellman, Eva Gohl, Robin Keogh, Monique Truax, Christin W., Chris VB

1. Opening Meditation
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes from previous meeting. Motioned by Steven. Seconded by Eva. Adopted Unanimously.
4. HR Report - HR update from Nick: SJ, Bretton are in cue for interview and definition of roles as part time off-property people. Note: be sure to label these positions as interim positions. Definition of steward role - needs to be trusted, well briefed. Aim to role out public job descriptions on Monday, Jan 31.
5. Outstanding Business from Previous Board Decisions
 - **Temple Project Update** Provided by Monique Truax. Overview of summary of temple design. Sent to all new board members. Urge for long term vision regarding future temple plans. Temple Project fundraising update by David Berry: Accrued \$85,000 in donations for new temple. If temple is not 'new', David is prepared to return donations as the outcome does not match the expectation of donors. In regards to refurbishing old temple: need to consult engineers. David to email existing donors to provide update. Monique provided overview of past air quality tests: ventilation is not working well in temple.
 - **Dissolution of Resident Teacher Structure** - David provides overview. Proposes 'Resident and Retreat Support Teachers'. This position should be rotating among different teachers. The term could be up to 90 days and then renewed. Need to further define this role. Topic of how to skillfully dissolve the Resident Teachers?
 - Motion made to dissolve the current structure of the resident teachers model. The Board will begin process to body structure, including input and suggestions from the outgoing resident teachers, to find a model for the DCC governance and spiritual support for the Centre. Motion made by David seconded by Robin. Passed unanimously by old board.
6. Nicholas Russell leaves meeting - David Berry agrees to take notes for final 20 minutes.
7. And so begin David's notes submitted to Nick R on Jan 31:

Chris von Bayer reminded the board that we need to implement the motion to reform the structure of the Resident Teacher position. David Berry and Robin Keogh agreed to speak with Terry and Mala about the motion and to invite their participation in exit interviews and their suggestions for a restructuring that would work from the point of view of rotating resident teachers.

Because Tracy Sheridan was not on the call, Eva Gohl suggested that the governance committee would present an update at the next board meeting.

Robin talked about the challenges of keeping track of all the documents generated by the Dharma Centre and the board had a brief discussion of using Google Docs or the website to make all the documents available to the board in an organized way. We briefly discussed whether the archive committee could help us create that.

Chris Van Baeyer suggested the value of exit interviews with board members who were leaving, staff members who were leaving and the resident teachers who were leaving the existing structure. Eva Suggested that being clear on what we want to learn from the interviews will help them be more useful and used the example of the summary sheets that we sent out with questions in advance to the spiritual directors for their exit interviews. The Spiritual Director interviews were conducted by Shelane, Eva and David.

The Namgyal Yangzab Buddhist Community of Canada offered to buy a set of Wongkur implements from the Dharma Centre for \$ 800. The implements were used almost exclusively by Lama Mark Webber. The board agreed to sell the implements.