

Minutes for MZMC Board Meeting

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Board members present:

Jodi Williams (President), Martin Lahn, Jen Racho, Susan Nelson, Karen Davis, Deb Mielke, Shaun Morrell. Wayne Moskowitz joined toward the end of the meeting.

Staff present: Tim, Admin. Director, Ted, Ben

Other members present: Ann Bauleke

Meeting convened at 11:33 a.m.

I. Approve April 2014 Minutes

- **Jen moved, Martin seconded**, to approve the minutes. **The motion was approved unanimously** (all aye, none opposed, none abstaining).

II. Disclose any Conflicts of Interest

- No conflicts were disclosed.

III. Calendar Items

- Board agreed generally that it should do a self-assessment on a regular basis, preferably at the end of the year (along with financial / programming review) and prior to Board nominations. Admin. Director, Tim, and Jodi agreed to talk further about the timing.
- Board discussed the annual sangha survey. Jodi suggested incorporating multiple purposes / topics into the annual survey.

IV. Program report

- Ted reported that Dave Walter has taken over Bill Tresch's position as groundskeeping coordinator and is performing well in this role. MZMC members are invited to join for yardwork time on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
- Mark Turbak and others are launching a social networking group. The first event will be on May 31 at 6:30 p.m., potluck open to everyone.
- Leadership group is starting a pilot program for mentorship to members. It is a three-month, renewable partnership between a member and a priest, involving both formal (dokusan) and informal meetings.

V. Committee reports

- **Membership:** Ted reported that he is stepping down as chair, but staying on the committee for one year. Martin will take place as chair. Membership thank you event coming up: ice cream social in the backyard on Saturday, June 21, from 2 to 4:00 p.m. Entertainment / music will be informal.
- **Fundraising:** Jodi reported that the spring appeal went out. \$11,000 has already been pledged (including the anonymous matching donations). Total goal is \$20,000.

- Building: Ben summarized the past four years of “conscious” work on building development. This has included engagement with the Board, two committees, professional consultants, key sangha members, and the MZMC membership at large. Ben summarized three key drivers in the discussion: 1. Growth of the community beyond building’s capacity; 2. Deferred maintenance: \$200,000 of work needed soon; 3. Accessibility to people with mobility issues. General options for addressing these issues include:
 - Stay on the current site and fix up the current structure
 - Rebuild / expand facility on the current site
 - Relocate to another site / facility
 - Establish satellite location

Strategic Planning Committee’s ultimate recommendation was to raze and rebuild, if feasible, and if not, relocate.

MZMC’s building committee now consists of Ben, Admin. Director, Wayne, and Shaun. Ben and Shaun have met with City of Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development. Ben advised the Board to work with each other, with people who’ve been involved in past processes, and decide on a direction (move forward, step back, reaffirm with community).

- Board discussed a variety of issues, including the Board’s past decisions, possible actions, the need for additional community engagement, and whether the community should vote on the decision to expand or move.
- Jodi entertained a motion to affirm the Board’s last decision to expand on site, with sangha communication and a timeline, and to direct the Building Committee to present a timeline, costs/benefits, and sangha communication plan to the Board. **Deb moved. Martin seconded.**
- Ted suggested alternative language to direct the Building Committee to inform the sangha of:
 - Past work on the building issue
 - Decisions that have been made
 - What still needs to be decided
 - A sense of vision and possibilities about the expansion
 - The fact that the sangha will be consulted during the process
- **Board voted to table the motion on the floor**, noting that the Board did not previously take decisive action that could be reaffirmed or communicated to the sangha.
- **Deb moved, Karen seconded**, that MZMC will expand the building on the current site. Jen added that this decision is being made based on a review of the work performed, information gathered, analysis done to date. **The motion was approved unanimously** (all aye, none opposed, none abstaining).
- **Jen moved, Susan seconded**, to direct the Building Committee to inform the sangha of past work on the building issue, decisions that have been made, what still needs to be decided, a sense of vision and possibilities about the expansion, and the fact that the sangha will be consulted during the process.

Admin. Director urged a commitment to keep a record of the sangha’s feedback, including written reports, and using more than one note-taker.

The motion was approved unanimously (all aye, none opposed, none abstaining).

VI. Budget/Finance:

- Admin. Director presented a report on MZMC's finances. She pointed out that fundraising is below budget but no fundraising had been conducted during the period to date.

VII. New business

- No new business was raised.

Strategic Planning Discussion (Four Year Goals)

- Tim distributed a template for 4-year goals, proposing that the Board take up the issue in more detail (one full hour) at a later meeting. Last adoption of 4-year goals was in 2008, meaning the current goals are now 2 years out of date. Report consisted of five proposed Strategic Outcomes, modifying and building off the 2008 four-year goals. Board discussed the language of the goals, specificity / wording, having measurable goals, annual goals vs. 4-year goals, and the idea of developing a "premier" practice location. Sangha input could be solicited in the annual survey on these goals.

VIII. Adjourn

- **Shaun moved, several seconded**, to adjourn at 1:31. **The motion was approved unanimously** (all aye, none opposed, none abstaining).