

Wet Mountain Sangha
Steering Committee
11-19-07

Minutes

I. Present were Merrilee Barnett, Jan Meserve, Darryl Murphy, Leticia Thurman, Doug Messner & David Cockrell

II. Dorsey Center Programs

A. Recruitment: David will produce a flyer in the next few days. Nancy Human, Joy Gilliam, Touchstone Health, Brenda, and Patty Valle were mentioned as potential folks who might know some potential participants. David will contact them right away.

B. There was discussion about the program sequence for the upcoming sittings. Doug laid out an outline that was pretty well agreed on: Greetings; Brief introductions; orientation to meditation; 3-minute sitting; debriefing; sitting instruction; 2 15-minute periods with walking in between; tea. Variation might be possible to accommodate specific participant interests.

III. Discussion of Buddhism in society. There truly is some animosity out there that we shouldn't forget about. This could impact the attractiveness of our Cancer Center program.

IV. Standing Committees: It was agreed that standing committees could be very helpful to the effectiveness of the sangha's operations. The Standing Committees would be great opportunities for sangha members who are not on the SC or serving as practice leaders. The Steering Committee (SC) should remain loose and open to anyone with an interest. Chairpersons of the Standing committees would be on the SC and would report on their committees' activities at the SC meetings, but actual detailed work of the committees would happen outside the SC meeting time.

A. Zendo (ask about using the closet next door)

B. Program—Merrilee, David

C. Zendo—Darryl, Leticia. The zendo committee will explore using the closet in the classroom next door. A new rug was discussed, and Tracy's offer of discounted carpet will be discussed further. Price was estimated at \$360 (16'x24'). Some renovation of the altar was also discussed.

D. Communications—Wendy

E. Finance—Linda

It was decided that we should have an all-sangha meeting to present the idea of the committees, vote on this organizational change and offer opportunities for people to join the various committees. At this meeting we would also select a chair for the SC for 2008. The meeting was proposed for Jan. 1 with a potluck lunch.

V. Further discussion of adding a sutra service. Doing a whole service adds a completeness not available when we just chant one sutra. It's good to just be open to the mystery of the words. Each sutra reflects a whole body of literature and tradition, which we want to learn. There was further discussion of a

sutra workshop and practice sing. This might be scheduled for New Years Day, in conjunction with a full-sangha meeting and potluck dinner.

VI. A trip to Santa Fe is coming together for the Dec. 22 Solstice Ceremony. David will contact Pasha to inquire about home hospitality (subsequently done. No offers yet, but Pasha thinks it's a possibility). The cost for the Solstice Ceremony is \$65.

VII. Winter/Spring dharma study was discussed. The group agreed that we should invite Joan to come up to do something with us before summer. Something playful! A dream workshop was mentioned. Zen art was another idea discussed.

Meeting adjourned at about 8:30.