

**Clouds in Water Zen Center  
Annual Meeting  
September 28, 2014**

**AGENDA**

Nathan called the meeting to order at 10:53 AM.

**I. Welcome**

Nathan called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance to the 2014 Clouds in Water Zen Center Annual Meeting.

**II. Board Nominations**

Board nominees introduced themselves.

**Motion:** Accept the slate of nominees – Karin Aguilar-San Juan, Katheleen Avila, Jay Benson and Roger Watts – to serve on the Board of Directors. **Motion passed.**

**III. Presentation on Vision**

Nathan presented the Clouds in Water vision and core beliefs and functions:

**We value the core practice of zazen and the teaching of Soto Zen Buddhism.**

Nathan mentioned several ways we've manifested this value:

1. Development of many ceremonies to honor the work being done by sangha members, like temple officers and youth practice teachers.
2. Large jukai class with the precepts being offered by Byakuren and Sosan.
3. The lifting of Sosan to the Guiding Teacher position.

**We value the pursuit of spiritual growth at all stages of life.**

Nathan mentioned several ways we've manifested this value:

1. The continuing strong Youth Practice program.
2. Formation of a Young Adult group, led by Nathan Thompson and Ben Gavin.
3. Jukai group includes high school students.

Nathan mentioned an area where we can do more:

1. Programming for people in the older age group.

**We value the great diversity of our culture, including race ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, creed, religious background, ability, income, family status, and level of practice.**

Nathan mentioned several ways we've manifested this value:

1. Formation of the Young Adult group.
2. Revitalization of the Shades of Dharma group for people of color.
3. Creation of a mindful parenting class.
4. Support of the interfaith work on the Doctrine of Discovery, led by Ken Ford.

Nathan mentioned an area where we can do more:

1. More programming made available online

**We place a high value on community as an expression of our interdependence.**

Nathan mentioned one way we've manifested this value:

1. Recognition of volunteers.

**We value of inter-relatedness with communities of the larger world.**

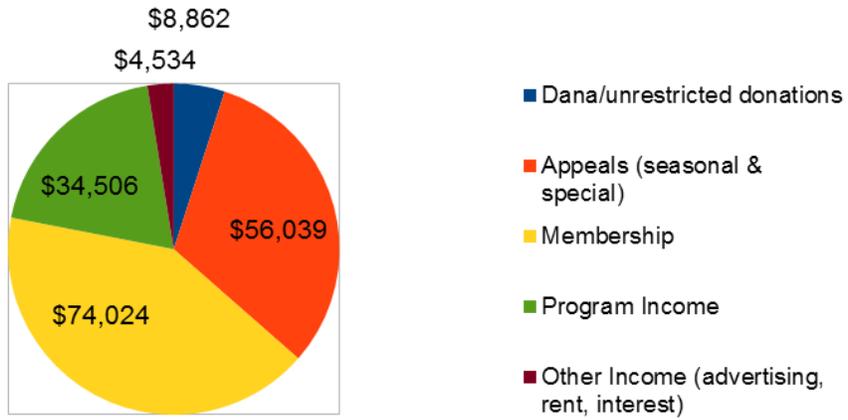
Nathan mentioned several ways we've manifested this value:

1. Support the interfaith work on the Doctrine of Discovery.
2. Fleet Maull workshop
3. Shared middle school group with the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center.

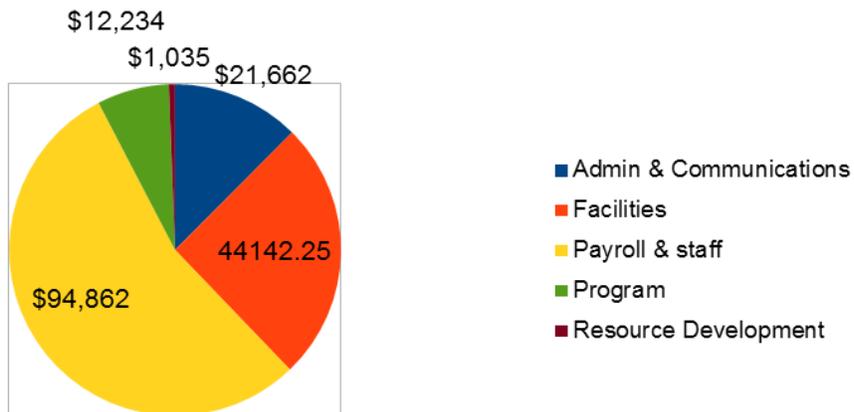
#### **IV. Financial Report**

Sosan presented a profit and loss overview, which shows a total net income of \$30,000 for 2013-2014. (See next page.) This includes a \$25,000 seed fund donation for use on activities related to finding/purchasing a new building.

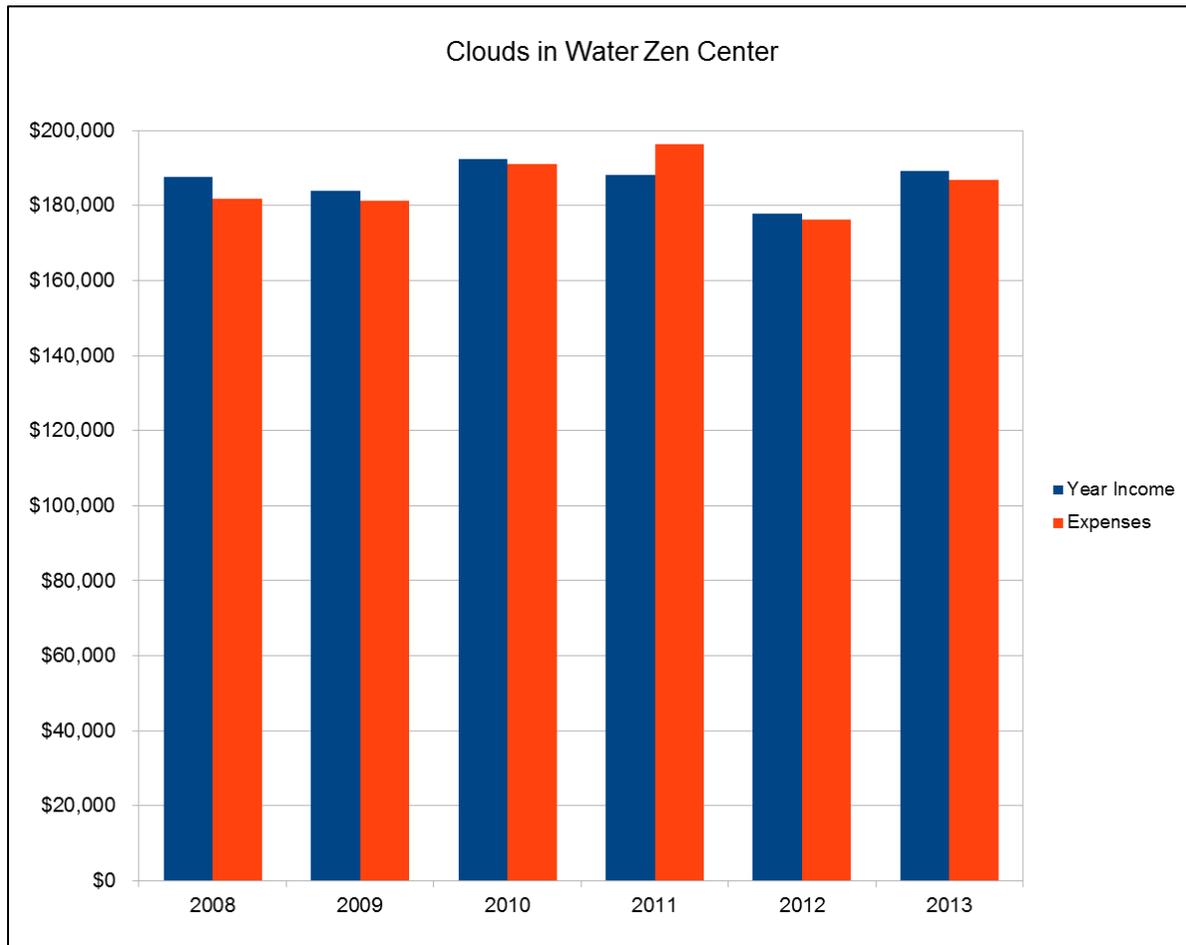
### 2013 -14 Income



### 2013-14 Expenses



Sosan noted that prior years showed a small surplus; where income was slightly above expenses.



Sosan mentioned that our 2013-2014 income comes from a variety of sources, with over  $\frac{1}{3}$  from membership pledges; another  $\frac{1}{3}$  in seasonal and special appeals;  $\frac{1}{4}$  in program income, and the remaining in other incomes (advertising, rent, interest) and dana (or unrestricted donations). About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of our expenses are payroll and staff;  $\frac{1}{4}$  of facilities (rent); and the remaining  $\frac{1}{4}$  on administration and communications, programming, and resource development.

Sosan introduced our preliminary capital campaign goal of \$200,000 to \$225,000, which includes a down payment, remodeling costs, moving expenses and new furniture and equipment. This goal will be finalized by the Executive Director once more specific remodeling costs and moving expenses are factored in.

Sosan announced that we have raised \$152,000 so far, plus the \$25,000 in seed funds for consultant, project manager, earnest money, and capital campaign expenses.

## **V. How We Got to 445 Farrington**

Carla recognized the members of the site search selection committee.

Carla provided an overview of our preliminary activity:

- Board decided to purchase rather than lease.
- Board developed search criteria and reached out to many community organizations for help.
- Conservative financial basis was chosen. The Board felt it wise to not assume a large increase in membership, so as not to take on a property that we could not afford. The Board learned about zoning and began searching for properties.
- Current lease was extended to June 2016, with a 60-day notice to get out of the lease with ArtSpace.

Carla provided an overview of our search of properties, which included:

- Board reviewed or considered several places on our own.
- The Board selected John Mannillo and Don Womack as our realtor.
- The initial search yielded 16 properties of which 5 were chosen for viewing. Those not chosen were those which already had tenants, had no or little parking, age of property, or high projected maintenance and/or utility costs.

Carla provided an overview of the 445 Farrington Street space, which includes:

- Positive reactions from visits by Board, teachers and 2 architect community members.
- Site selection process developed.
- Board increased number of votes needed for purchase to  $\frac{3}{5}$ , with one vote from the Teacher Ryo.
- Preliminary renovation estimate received from contractor.
- Board voted at special meeting on September 7 to submit purchase agreement for at \$305,00 purchase price.
- The seller accepted the offer on September 9, with a 60-day due diligence period, which ends November 11.

Carla answered questions about the property from the membership.

## **VI. Architect Overview of 445 Farrington**

Roger Howley provided pictures of what the building and interior looks like now and what it might look like after renovations.

A variety of questions were raised and discussed.

Rachel presented the 4 dates that sangha members can tour the 445 Farrington building. There will be a Council meeting on Sunday, October 19 at 11:30 for the community to voice their concerns/questions about the building.

## **VII. Volunteering**

Wally provided an overview of the importance of volunteering, mentioning that this is the time to give the gift of your time to the sangha.

**Nathan called the meeting closed at 12:28 PM.**

Minutes submitted by Rachel Vilsack.