

Clouds in Water Zen Center

June Board Meeting

June 9, 2013

Attending: Karin Aguilar-San Juan, Carla Breunig, Kurt Errickson, Sosan Theresa Flynn, Carol Iwata, Angus MacDonald, Byakuren Judith Ragir, Nathan Thompson, Rachel Vilsack, Elizabeth Wroblewski

Nathan called the meeting to order at 1:28 AM

AGENDA

I. Space Specifications Ranking Proposal

Carol mentioned how it's important to move forward with our vision and space process together. The specifications for a new space are a wish-list and need to be prioritized. She shared a space specification document and asked us to individually rank the choices.

A small committee would review the rankings and report back to the July Board Meeting.

Review committee to include: Carol, Rachel and Elizabeth (if needed).

II. Leasing Decision

Nathan shared two questions that will help the Board prepare for making a decision on our lease in the Northern Warehouse:

a) What fears or concerns do you have around moving that might impact your opinion about upcoming lease negotiations with ArtSpace?

Angus mentioned that we need to maximize our opportunities for flexibility. We don't want to be in a situation where we miss something, have to support (financially) multiple properties, or

have to share sangha energy and enthusiasm with a new facility.

Elizabeth reinforced enthusiasm, which will be hard to sustain for multiple years.

Carla shared the fear of loss of members due to inadequate parking.

Nathan mentioned the fear of rushing to make a decision.

Both Byakuren and Carol voiced concern over the amount of time needed to locate a place, fundraise, renovate and move in, and did not want to feel forced to rush.

Several people discussed wanting just a 2-year lease (until 2015). Carol expressed a preference for a three year lease, starting this fall, to end in the fall of 2016, and if we needed to leave early because we find a space then we could break our lease.

b) How serious are we are collaboration with other Twin Cities sanghas? Is it an important factor in considering future locations for Clouds?

The Board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of collaboration with other regional Zen Centers.

The Board discussed other possibilities of collaboration with non-Buddhist groups. Carla will follow up with some of these possibilities.

The Board collectively supports conversations with a variety of groups as to the possibility of collaboration that supports and upholds our values, to be open to those possibilities, and to trust the dynamism of the process.

Nathan called the meeting closed at 2:40 PM.

Board minutes submitted by Rachel Vilsack.

