

Clouds in Water Board of Directors

Draft Minutes: December 9, 2012

Due to adverse weather, the board agreed to a slightly shorter meeting than usual. Nathan called the meeting to order at approximately 11 a.m.

In attendance:

Nathan Thompson
Carol Iwata
Rachel Vilsack
Kurt Errickson
Carla Breunig
Karin Aguilar-SanJuan
Angus MacDonald
Byakuren Judith Ragir
SosanTheresa Flynn

Agenda:

- 1) Board Meetings for Next Year
- 2) Budget

Board Meetings for Next Year

The Board retreat is set for Saturday, February 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Carol's house.

The following dates were selected for regular board meetings:

January 6
March 3
April 7
May 19
June 9
July 21 (at 11:30, after the full moon ceremony)
August 18 (at 11:30)
September 29 – which will also serve as the Clouds in Water Annual meeting, to which Sangha members are invited. This meeting will start at 10:30 and run until noon, starting after a short dharma talk. Snacks will be served after.

Unless otherwise specified, all board meetings will start at 11.

Budget

Clouds in Water made its goal for the fall membership appeal. A gap of \$4100 remains for this years budget. This is not unusual compared to past budget years, and Sosan said that the remaining three weeks of the calendar year were probably enough time to make up the amount.

Give to the Max day was particularly successful, with \$11,000 in contributions gathered in response to a \$10,000 match.

Budget Overview –

- Because membership and pledges are up, expected revenue from the fall appeal has been increased for next year compared to this year.

- The board discussed deficits in the 2012 budget related to class and sesshin revenue. One option was to increase the amount of classes offered next year.

- The board also focused on projections for visiting instructor revenue. A concern was that income from visiting instructors is contingent upon the relatively unpredictable variable of participation. The two specific examples were the sesshin with Rev Anderson, which requires a minimum of 35 people, and the Fleet Maul workshop, which is budgeted at a cost of approximately \$3000.

The board decided that the guest teacher portion of the budget will be allocated to a special category, and removed from the program income portion of the budget. While this will stabilize planning, it will also result in an \$11,800 deficit in planned program income.

Further, the board decided to limit financial risk for the Fleet Maul event. They requested staff to provide a more detailed plan for the event, and set forward more specific financial liabilities. While remaining supportive of the event, the Board decided that Clouds in Water would not be liable for more than \$1200 for the event. The Board requested that staff explore risk-sharing options with Shambala Meditation Center.

The Board requested that staff provide options on the following items for possible inclusion into the budget:

- improved web-based audio-publication of dharma talks and other events
- web based classes
- a two percent base wage adjustment for current staff.

The Board created a subcommittee to revise and develop a budget proposal for action at the January meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15.

Minutes completed by Kurt Errickson.