# Minutes for December 1, 2019 Board Meeting

Prepared by Nico Detourn, Secretary.

## (1) Call to order and introduction

Meeting Called to order by Jim Mills. Present were Jim Mills, Board Member, Chari; Dan Zigmond, Board Member; Bryan Gaynor, attorney; Hollis DeLancy, Board Member; Jennifer Hohman, Resident and JMG member; Meido, visitor; Nico Detourn, Board Member, Secretary, Steve Rehn, visitor; Michael Newhall, Resident Teacher; Doug Jacobson, Teacher.

Bryan agreed to facilitate meeting.

## (2) Minutes approval

Had two meetings that were continuation meetings, have minutes from those two meeting, submitted for approval.

Discussion by Dan about deleting recordings of meetings once the minutes are approved, with the minutes being the official record. Hollis strongly agreed.

Nico asked if deleting them would eliminate record of precisely what was claimed, in the event of a controversy. Bryan noted the level of controversy at previous two meetings. Said it's a good idea to keep those minutes for a limited period of time. But he does agree policy should be to delete recordings of meetings. But these particular meeting, and the proceeding minutes from 2017, because of controversy and risk of litigation, should be kept until the June 2020 meeting. Thereafter, the recordings should be deleted.

Any changes to June 9, 2018 minutes?

Dan: remove reference to the recording.

Hollis seconded.

Jim: Motion to approve.

Second by Dan.

No discussion.

Board unanimously approved minutes.

Any changed to June 23 meeting?

Same request by Dan.

No other comments.

Move to approve by Jim.

Second by Dan.

Board unanimously approved minutes.

## (3) Reports (e.g., Treasurer, Resident Teacher and Committees)

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Bryan delivered Treasurer report on behalf of Treasurer Michael Petersen.

Change in personnel at book keeping firm created a delay. New person Amber They are waiting for her final report. Have put Jikoji "on extension." Will have final budget report later in December.

Gave preliminary budget report, a final is pending. There is no need for board action on this report, being given for informational purposes, and with final budget presented to board for final approval and as the Treasurer's report.

### RESIDENT TEACHER'S REPORT

A teacher’s report from Kaizan Doug Jacobson – Dec 1, 2019

Michael Newhall made request to board, with "consensus of other residents." That the board meetings hereafter not take place "in the vicinity" of a sesshin, and that meetings be scheduled at least two weeks before or after a major sesshin. Also asked that the current meeting be as short as possible, with anything else being conducted by phone.

Bryan said would have to change the Bylaws, which takes two meetings. There was a sense of the board that we agree, and just have to put into a formal form. Bryan would work out language reflecting this. General agreement that mid January would work.

Doug gave a review of practice at Jikoji since June. See report.

This report covers Jikoji programs between June 2019 and today. These include the Sunday Program, the three sesshins (Genjo-e, Denko-e, and Nature Sesshin), monthly Science and Buddhism discussions, weekly book study group, workshops, and monthly Zazenkai.

**Sesshins:** In mid-June, Kokyo Henkel led the **Genjo-e** Sesshin**.** In early July, Eric led a **Nature** Sesshin. In early October, **Denko-e** Sesshin included 24 people attending part-time to full-time. Eleven people came from the Cleveland and Chicago areas. Five teachers shared in giving talks. Yoga has also been offered during many of our sesshins.

**Sunday Program:** From June through Dec 1, we hosted (9) female speakers and (14) male speakers. Thank you, Cliff, for keeping our speaker lineup strong. The zazen instruction is provided by residents. Also, each Sunday, Hogan or others in our Sangha offered and continue to offer a “Gentle Walk” after lunch cleanup each Sunday.

**Science and Buddhism:** The 2019 theme is Wellness with monthly sessions and this last half-year have been led by Cliff, Taizan Mark Adams, Jen Hohman, and Nico Detourn. The program has regular attendees and usually sees 15 - 20 each month. Sunday program attendees often stay for the afternoon S&B.

**Zazenkai:** Held the first Saturday of each month, Zazenkai is led by Doug an Eric.

Consistently 6 – 12 guests participate. Often morning zazen is offered on the ridge. Participants often book rooms for the night before.

**Workshops** – Gerow Reece led a three day Calligraphy Workshop attended by twelve including four musicians from LA who performed contemplative music one of the evenings.

**Evening Book** Discussion - The weekly Evening Book Discussion led by Doug and Cliff hosted 3 - 6 guests held most Wednesdays. We offered dinner at 6 pm, then had readings and discussion on Zen Mind, Beginner’s Mind and closed the evening with zazen.

**Work Practice Weekend** – none held between June and Dec 1.

Thanks to Nico for her care in publicizing and coordinating our programs and for nurturing the newer ones. Thanks to all who help make Jikoji’s programs happen. Thanks to Jen for buying the food, managing the kitchens, and for room readiness. Thanks to Hogan for taking great care of the facilities and issues that arise. Thanks to all who have voluntarily helped with tenzo (cooking) duties. Thanks to Michael Newhall for guiding all this happening. Thank you, Jikoji!

Mike welcomed Victoria Kamsler as a resident, and looked forward to John Somers as a resident. Also, a shuso period with Connie Ralls.

**Shika**

Some numbers: 250 "booking invoices" since June. Includes: individual guests, also Jikoji events and sesshins, Denko-e in October and Rohatsu which starts today.

Does NOT include 6 outside groups each typically with 15 to 20 attendees of those events. overall there were some about 350 people who spend overnight time at Jikoji in connection with practice.

Fall and spring things pick up, with our own sesshins and also outside groups. Recently: Floating Zendo, Kannon Do, Zen Heart Sangha, Great Spirit Sangha, IMC, Santa Barbara Zen Center, most of those already have dates picked out for 2020. We're seeing an increase in inquiries from outside groups.

Individual guests, and Sunday Program visitors previously said found us by sign on road OR searched online for some combination of meditation and retreat. More recently, told about Jikoji by a friend, word of mouth, a very pleasing thing. Often show up groups of 3 or more.

Nature Sesshin, Calligraphy Workshop help create interest and bring people to Jikoji. Monthly Zazenkai continues to get overnight guests. Science & Buddhism also brings a regular group of people. These events all continue to support our major sesshins, attendees of 4 traditional sesshins later attend other events non-sesshin events, vice versa. Sesshin guests taking other opportunities to be at Jikoji.

Both Room 2 and our beautiful new Room 3 both usually booked weekends when no outside group. mid week bookings also occur. Room 3 has been a great success, Thanks to Jen for appointing it so nicely.

Also interesting and nice with events like Nature Sesshin, Calligraphy, and Zazenkai overnight guests book their own rooms at regular guest rates.

Website and newsletter are working well together, keeping our events visible. Good coordination among event scheduling, event publicity and information, guest bookings. Notes advantages in having common oversight of these functions.

The new GPP and CRP is on the site. Residency application pages updated to better reflect the new Term Practitioner era that Jikoji is entering.

**Facilities Report**

Doug: Water tank refurbished. 30 year old tank had perforations. Full overhaul. In $10 000 range. Have offer from local association to help pay for that. Well pump was replaced, $2200. Prior replacements in 2008, 2014, 2016. Wiring and pipes rerouted at well head, after all lines up to the well had been broken due to a car mishap. by two bodhisattvas. Much to the well work was done by contractors who are very fond of Jikoji who volunteered their time to do this work.

Jen spearheaded much painting in rooms and elsewhere.

Meido said that as regular visitor, she was "overwhelmed with the decadence" of Room 3, with the "beautiful room."

Mike thanked Bryan for building the kiosk, which Mike designed.

**Publications Report**

Nico. Mostly just the web site and newsletter working with guest and event coordination, as mentioned in Shika report. Have lots of spiral bound copies of Kobun's Platform Sutra and Heart Sutra teachings, thanks to Judy. Would like to combine those into one volume, but will wait until current inventory is down.

Hollis's Kobun Calligraphy book: Hollis talked to Gary, it's hopefully on the table for this summer.

Hollis had an update on her work on Kobun's lecture of Denko-e from 1986, the first he gave after being away on 3 year retreat. She read an excerpt from Kobun's talk, where he explains the essence of Denko-e.

## (4) Consent items

No Consent items.

## (5) Action items

No Action items.

**Resolutions to be considered:**

No resolutions.

## (6) Discussion items

No discussion items.

Bryan called for a motion to adjourn. Jim moved. Hollis seconded. Board unanimously voted to adjourn.