

Sky Creek Dharma Center



Three Oaks Court ♦ Chico CA 95973 ♦
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Proposed Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors Sky Creek Dharma Center November 30, 2007 5:30-7:00 PM at Sky Creek Dharma Center

Board Members Present:

Jasper Lerch, President
Kirsten Boyd, Secretary
Jessica MacKenzie, Treasurer
Bob Egert
Joanne Hamilton

Others Present:

Amos Clifford, Executive Director

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 5:45pm by Jasper Lerch.

Informative Items:

Jessica submitted amended minutes to the November 28th meeting to be accepted and finalized by the Board. Motion to approve minutes by Amos; Seconded by Bob; Aye: all; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0.

Jasper and Jessica have been approved as signers to the Dharma Center's bank account. Checks for the Center have been ordered but not received as of November 30th. Also, rent has not been paid as of the current date.

The only weekend event scheduled in December is the Women's Retreat with Judy Fox from the Heart of the Lotus Sangha on December 15-16.

Executive Director Report:

Amos has been asked to reconsider the job he was offered in Sebastopol. He is reconsidering. If he accepts the position, a new leader for the 20 Something's Group might potentially have to be found. Amos has asked Lynn Jensen to consider any potential leaders he might know of.

The speculation for the missing key to the Dharma Center is that a rodent or a bird is the potential culprit to blame for the key's repeated absence. As such, Jessica volunteered to bring a lockbox for the key to be stored in safely. The code to open the lockbox is by pressing the numbers in all four corners, in no particular order.

At this point in the meeting, the monthly workday/potluck was announced for the 23rd of December.

Executive Committee Report:

The Executive Committee had nothing to report.

Agenda:

Status of Providing Housing for Individuals in February:

The issue before the board is to decide to provide housing for individuals in February who will be visiting the area for the Lobsang Samtem event. Jessica worked out a spreadsheet with confirmed per person prices instead of per room figures and reported that deciding to house the individuals will bring the Dharma Center almost a \$3,000 profit.

Jessica proposed that the Board approve this project in order to move forward with working out all the details. Amos added that it is important to get liability insurance for the month of February. Jessica figured that the cheapest and easiest liability insurance to attain would be if she call Georgie and ask her to extend her liability insurance for that month. General discussion of improvements to make on the building ensued including painting, accommodations (no luxury accommodations, rather, having "Dharma accommodations"), and general work.

Motion: To offer the Sky Creek Dharma Center as a place for the use of people coming to Chico in February for the Lobsang Samtem event, subject to confirmation of whether the Board can confirm insurance for the Dharma Center during the month of February or not. Motion to approve by Jasper; Seconded by Joanne; Aye: all; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0.

Monetary Status of the Dharma Center:

Jessica reported that there is about \$1,600 in the bank as of the current time. Bills the Center owes exceed the amount of money in the bank, and more bills are coming in December. The Dharma Center is still at the edge of solvency. Jessica offered to promote the idea that our Center is not just a business to make money from, it is a commitment to Buddhist practice. She read a quote from a publication of the Berkeley Priory about the importance of having a strong base of donations to keep their center afloat. She intends to write a similar communication and send it out to all Sanghas in order to hopefully achieve more financial participation for the Dharma Center.

Some discussion ensued about potential ways to attain dana:

- Membership
- Bringing more teachers to the Center to draw in more attendance
- Simply mentioning the importance of dana and the Center's need for it.

Action Items:

Motion: To approve Greg Mirick's, Board Member, verbal request of resignation from the

Board. Joanne Hamilton proposed that all requests be in writing in the future. Motioned by Jasper; Seconded by Jessica; Aye: all; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0.

Motion: To approve Kate Transchel's request to become a member of the Board and fill the position of Vice President. After some discussion, the motion was approved. Motioned by Jasper; Seconded by Jessica; Aye: all; Nay: 0; Abstain: 0.

Information Items:

Best of Chico: Sky Creek Dharma Center received a framed certificate for a Best of Chico: "Best Place to Sit and Breathe" from the *Chico News and Review*!

Anniversary Celebration: The date for the Anniversary Party/Christmas Celebration of the Sky Creek Dharma Center is set for December 15th and will begin around 4:00pm. Everyone is to bring cookie dough to cook in the ovens at the center. Potential ideas include: a movie or music playing softly in the background, potential monk storytellers from the Abbey, and cookie dough (a potential fundraising idea). A Christmas Committee was formed. Its members are Jasper, Jessica, Amos, and Kirsten.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 12th from 5:30-7:00pm at Sky Creek Dharma Center.

Meeting adjourned by Jasper Lerch at 7:02pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by-

Kirsten Boyd
Co-Secretary to the Board