

## Cedar Rapids Zen Center – Jikyouji

MINUTES – Sangha<sup>1</sup> Meeting – March 3, 2019 – Convened at 10:50 AM

Called to order by sangha member Amy Able

**Present:** Treasurer Myoho Kendall, Resident Teacher Zuiko Redding, Jenn Day, Amy Able, Chris Lui

**COUNCIL** was held.

**MINUTES** of December meeting and January retreat – tabled until March meeting.

**PRACTICE REPORT** – Zuiko Redding - See Appendix A

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – Myoho Kendall

### Accounts as of 02-23-18

Checking (Hills)	\$5,744.21	
Savings (Hills)	\$5,717.82	
Savings (LACU)	\$2.13	
Savings (UICCU)	\$5.00	
NTF Savings (LACU)	\$2,405.84	
CD (UICCU)	\$23,702.25	04/12/19
CD (LACU)	\$30,250.41	05/25/19
CD (UICCU)	\$22,584.61	06/03/19
NTF CD (LACU)	\$10,582.99	05/03/21
CD (UICCU)	\$10,871.45	06/17/23
Mutual Funds (ING)	\$37,285.32	(Split 55.7% as NTF and 44.3% as CRZC)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$149,170.03</b>	
The total amount within the NTF	\$33,756.75	(NTF Savings + CD + Mutual Funds)

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT – Zuiko Redding

Myoho’s work list is at the back of the shelves in the entry for people to refer to. If you find things that need to be done, either let Myoho or Zuiko know or write it on a sticky note and attach it to the list.

- o Work day – February 16 – Cleaned entry, pantry, and library, put up 4 smoke detectors and a coat rack, upholstered basement chair, fixed water exhaust pipe on furnace. Thanks to Annora, Nguyet Thieu, Myoho, and Zuiko. And to Denny for the pizza.
  - Next Work Day: March 9. Indoor cleaning and repair work. Perhaps some yard work.

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<sup>1</sup> A community of Buddhists that practices together. Also used to mean the community of all Buddhists in the world.

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- o Active projects
  - Caulk discussion room ceiling
  - Sump pump - need to get battery.
- o Projects needing attention – possible work day items
  - Peeling paint on the wall of the downstairs bathroom cabinet.
  - Wash front of house.
  - Caulk discussion room ceiling.
  - Cabinet doors in downstairs toilet need to be planed.
- o Finished projects
  - Basement chair upholstered.
  - Basement pipe leak fixed.
  - Smoke detectors installed. Thanks to John and Julie for purchasing these.
  - Coat rack installed.
- o New Projects
  - Purchase six-foot shelf boards for basement. Need three.
- o Pending long-term projects – Things that need to get done sometime
  - Painting: woodwork and walls in library, hall, office, Zuiko’s room, and stairwell/touch up garage/ touch up porch, paint porch deck
  - Fix ceiling in bathroom and probably Zuiko’s sitting room. The plaster is falling down. Zuiko will contact Roger Brecht who did the kitchen for us for an estimate and possible work. Put off until next March.
  - Install new stair rail top in spring.
  - Roof: long-term plan is to put on a new roof in 2019 or 2020.
  - Refinish floors – Would be nice to begin with the zendo and the entry
  - Garage door may need replacement in the next few years,
  - Explore possibility of making the Center handicapped accessible.
- o Did we miss anything?

We are still in need of people to help with this area or to take it over.

**COMMUNICATIONS REPORT - Tabled for next meeting.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **1. Succession Planning Discussion**

- a. Members stated we need to spread the word to sangha members who did not attend retreat.
- b. Members suggested creating a page on website to post succession planning information. Myoho offered to talk with Eric about creating a webpage.
- c. Zuiko stated information regarding the retreat was mentioned within the last monthly newsletter. Once information has been post to website another announcement can be written in the April newsletter. Zuiko requested assistance for typing up a description for the newsletter.
- d. Myoho stated she is still editing the recordings from the succession planning into sections.

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- e. Amy Abel offered to send an invite message to sangha and board members the retreat attendees had recommended serving on the succession planning committee. The list of names will then be recommended to the Board for final approval in forming a succession planning committee.
- f. Succession Planning will be a standing item on the agenda to discussion within sangha meetings.

#### 2. Review of proposed 2019 budget

##### Cedar Rapids Zen Center 2018 Actual & 2019 Budget

Income	Full Year 2018 Budget	Full Year 2018 Actual	Full Year 2019 Budget
Bookstore/Library - UR	\$300.00	\$173.09	\$300.00
Contributions - UR	\$13,500.00	\$17,652.59	\$17,000.00
Fundraising - UR	\$8,500	\$6,889.38	\$7,000
Teaching Engagements - UR	\$800.00	800.00	\$800.00
Practice - UR	\$900.00	\$5,002.84	\$5,000.00
Prison Fund - TR	\$0.00	\$72.45	\$100.00
Miscellaneous Income (rebates) - UR	\$100.00	\$52.16	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$24,100.00</b>	<b>\$30,722.51</b>	<b>\$30,300.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Housing			
a. Mortgage	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
b. Maintenance	\$1,700.00	\$1,574.62	\$1,700.00
c. Renovation	\$2,000.00	\$4,808.07	\$2,000.00
Insurance (house/org./work comp.)	\$2,000.00	\$1,850.00	\$2,000.00
Utilities	\$3,000.00	\$3,938.80	\$4,000.00
Personnel (health ins./wages)	\$6,600.00	\$5,557.61	\$5,600.00
Office Supplies & Service	\$2,500.00	\$1,235.23	\$1,500.00
Fundraising	\$650.00	\$667.16	\$650.00
Bookstore/Library (inventory)	\$450.00	\$251.03	\$450.00
Practice	\$2,300.00	5,081.13	\$5,000.00
Dharma School	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Prison Practice (reimburses bookstore)	\$500.00	\$1,615.00	\$1,000.00
Community Support	\$500.00	\$200.00	\$500.00
New Teacher Recruitment	0.00	0.00	\$1,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$0.00	\$105.93	\$0.00
New Teacher Savings (transfers to savings)	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$27,100.00</b>	<b>\$31,659.88</b>	<b>\$30,300.00</b>
Net Budget Excess (Deficit)	-\$3,000	-\$937.37	-\$0.00

TR = Temporarily Restricted, UR = Unrestricted

#### Financial report as of 02-23-18:

Checking \$5,744.21  
 Savings \$5,7242.95  
 NTF Savings \$2,405.84  
 Mutual Funds \$37,285.32  
 4/12/19 CRZC CD \$23,702.25  
 5/25/19 CRZC CD \$30,250.41  
 6/03/19 CRZC CD \$22,584.61  
 5/03/21 NTF CD \$10,582.99  
06/17/23 CRZC CD \$10,871.45  
 Total = \$149,170.03

New Teachers Fund Total:  
 \$33,756.75

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- a. Myoho proposed 2019 budget with sangha members. There was some discussion on the best way to capture the hossenshiki expenses. It was recommended to separate out the expense and revenue as it's own line items within the budget. Myoho will make needed changes to reflect the hossenshiki expenses that Zuiko shared within her practice report.

### 3. Request to find another IRCLC rep.

- a. Sangha members stated it would be best to send out an email to the sangha to see if there is interest in serving in the Board.
- b. Cost of Hossenshiki Ceremony and fundraising ideas - cost was discussed within the practice report. No discussion was held about fundraising ideas.
- c. Planning for field trips to other Zen Centers - members mentioned the idea of visiting Milwaukee Zen Center, Hokyoji, Prairie Zen Center, and/or Sanshinji Zen Committee. This will be a standing item to discuss within sangha meetings.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS for CRZC

Monday Night Dharma<sup>2</sup> – March 4, 11, 18, 25 6:30 PM

Baika Practice – March 14, 28

Introduction to Zazen - March 20 7:30 PM

Sangha Meeting – Sunday, March 25

### NEXT MEETING: March 25

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM

Respectfully submitted by Myoho Kendall

## Appendix A

### Practice Report – February 24, 2019

#### General Impressions

We had a fine workshop on succession on January 27. I feel good that we're beginning to move on this again.

I want to explain a bit about Hossenshiki, the ceremony we're having on July 13. This is a ceremony in which a teacher in training is first presented to the sangha as a teacher. They are called the *shuso* – assembly head. The sangha asks questions on a Zen story – koan – and the shuso answers. This happens in the context of an *ango* – a "rains retreat" in which practice is more concentrated. I want to have one for us that will begin May 15 and end August 15. This will involve only people who sign up for it. We can make vows to do a bit more during this time. For instance, someone might sign up to come every Sunday for those months, or attend every Monday discussion, or sit at home every day, or keep a practice journal. The shuso leads this period by doing extra things like giving dharma talks, giving a workshop on some topic, and leading work.



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<sup>2</sup> The nature of reality; Buddhist teaching

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The hossenshiki actually begins the night before with a tea in which the chief visiting teacher gives a talk on the koan for the hossenshiki. This is called *honsoku gyocha*. That will happen at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening and everyone is invited.

The Hossenshiki will be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and I'd like to have a potluck lunch afterward. There will be an entrance much like the the one at Myoho's ordination. Then we chant the Heart Sutra and after that Myoho answers questions. Everyone is welcome to ask a question, but you should sign up so we can know how many will be asked and schedule the time for them. After the ceremony is over, there is a chance to give congratulations. Everyone can do that, too. However, we should each limit ourselves to a minute or less. Reading a poem or a piece of scripture is a nice thing to do. For instance, "like a dragon gaining the water, like a tiger taking to the mountains!" from Fukanzazengi would be nice. Being quick is really helpful – many of us are sitting on our feet and cannot move until this is over.

We need to have ten Sotoshu registered people here, so there will be lots of visitors. Some will need accommodations. If you can put people up, let us know.

We also need to discuss finances for this. There will be travel costs, hotel costs, and honoraria to pay.

Zuiko shared an estimated budget and invite list with sangha members.

### Center Activities

- Introductory evening – cancelled because of weather.
- Sunday and daily sitting – Attendance on Sundays is nearly nil. Evening and noon zazen are very sparse.
- Baika practice – Four people these days. We have a steady group.
- Monday night dharma – We have four to five people. We're about halfway through *Don't Be a Jerk*.
- Rakusu sewing – We're sewing rakusus for incarcerated people who've received the precepts. The next date will be today, February 24.

### Special Events -

- Rohatsu in December – Zuiko sat on Saturday. We discussed having a virtual sesshin next year. Participants would sign up to do all or part of the sesshin at home, then post on Facebook.
- January all-day sitting – Zuiko and Myoho sat.

### Sangha Members' Activities

- Tim Macejak, Tim Yukl, Myoho, and Daishin McCabe sit with the men in the Iowa prisons.
- Kelly teaches the introductory evening
- Myoho and Daishin visit Newton. Zuiko will visit Newton in March. Daishin visits Ft. Madison.
- Lauren manages our Facebook page and the two newsletters
- Eric manages our web page and does technical support for our system.
- Gus writes thank-you notes to donors, supplies web site sayings, and mows the lawn.

### Zuiko's Activities

- Sitting with Anamosa men cancelled because of weather.
- February 28 – Sitting with Ft. Madison men.
- Writing for Facebook page, monthly newsletter, and *Ancient Way*.
- Working on book on "Eight Awakening Points of Great People" to be published by Sanshinji's Dogen Institute.

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### Other Items

- Myoho's hossenshiki – July 13 (Saturday). Zuiko is corresponding with Sotoshu and will be working on a budget for this. We'll need around \$4,000 or so to cover planes, hotels and fees to Sotoshu. Zuiko has a preliminary budget for people to refer to. Let's begin thinking of fundraising.