

TIMC 2020 Annual Meeting of the Board | December 12, 2020

Minutes

Attending from the Board: Scott Bryce, Mike Hall, Cynthia Hughey, Leah Rutchick, Sarah Tillis, Ron Vereen

Attending from the Community: Cathy Cole, Susan Finer, Sarah Gardner, Ed Hoefle, Beth Lauderdale, Cornelia “Kip” Lee, Donna Rabiner, Erica Rothman, Robert Seyler, Lynn Shapiro, Amanda Weir-Gertzog

Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order and read the agenda. There was a 10-minute meditation.

The Board read the Communication Guidelines.

2019 Financial Report

The 2019 Financial Report was presented by the Treasurer. A brief discussion among all in attendance was held.

The Board voted to accept the 2019 Financial Report as presented.

Officers Election

Scott Bryce explained the rationale for having the 2020 annual meeting and election of officers now, rather than in February 2020, when the Chair and Secretary completed their one-year terms. The purpose is to select the Chair and Secretary, who will serve until the 2021 Annual Meeting, projected to take place in Feb 2021. The election is to be conducted in a closed session of this meeting to allow the Board to have an open discussion. This is in accordance with a previous Board decision, and, though not spelled out explicitly, is considered in accordance with the bylaws.

The Board adjourned to a breakout session and returned to the meeting after the election process.

The Board elected Leah Rutchick as Chair and Mike Hall as Secretary, retroactive to February 2020. These are their second one-year terms and will end in February 2021.

Community Groups

A discussion on community groups followed. Group representatives provided brief status updates on

- Welcoming Committee: Lynn Shapiro
- Racial Affinity groups: Beth Lauderdale
- Social committee: Robert Seyler
- Men's Sharing Group: Mike Hall
- Caring Circles: Leah Rutchick
- Kalyana Mitta groups: Sarah Tillis

A desire was expressed for new ways to improve dissemination of information amongst the Sangha and to recruit new members. One idea is to use time at the end of or after the Wednesday TIMC meetings to provide opportunities for attendees to meet and engage group leaders/representatives.

It was noted that while the board initiated the development of some groups, several groups, including the Social Committee and Men's Sharing Group, were grassroots initiatives that formed with no involvement from the board. This is a valuable and exciting way for the sangha to create new groups that address interests and needs.

Committees

A discussion on potential committees followed.

- Bylaws Workgroup
- Teachers Council
- Program
- Communications
- Finance

Sarah Tillis explained the decision by the Board to form a Bylaws Workgroup to continue the work of improving the existing bylaws growing out of the consultative process board members went through, which strengthened a shared commitment to fostering less hierarchical governance. The bylaws also need revision of specific details, e.g. the process for conducting election of officers.

A Program Committee would focus on topics of education and outreach, while a Communications Committee would oversee design and function of the website and newsletter.

The interdependencies between the various committees were acknowledged.

Mike Hall shared information about the three openings on the board, which the board would like to fill in 2021. The board is still working on developing the process for nominations.

Open Discussion

There was a call for more outreach. Given the large number of newsletter recipients, there is potential for increased involvement and interaction among Sangha members. There should be more exploration of ways to increase personal outreach and recruitment to groups so individuals and groups can be empowered to contribute.

A blog on the website could improve interconnection within the Sangha.

Closing Remarks were offered by Scott Bryce.

The meeting was adjourned.