

Minutes

Quarterly Intersangha meeting, Recovery Dharma Portland July 18, 2020

The quarterly Intersangha meeting opened with a welcome from the Intersangha Chair, John Tony.

Kavi led a 10-minute meditation focused on equanimity.

Weekly Meeting Roll Call

16 Recovery Dharma Portland meetings currently exist. A roll call of representatives from these meetings was taken, with the following results:

Weekly meeting represented at July 18 Intersangha meeting:

1. Queer Paths: Kavi
2. Hood River Sunday: Joseph
3. Friends of Dhamma: Adrian
4. Dharma Rain: Jess
5. Men's Meeting: Jeremy
6. Women, Trans, Non-Binary: Benny
7. Forest Grove: Zach
8. Kaiser Beaverton: Michael
9. Gorge Recovery: Richard
10. Meditation Sandwich: Jon

A quorum of 60% of weekly meetings must be present for a vote to be taken. Sixty percent of 16 meetings is 9.6, rounded up to 10. The July 18 Intersangha meeting thus met the quorum threshold for voting on proposals.

Weekly meetings not represented at the July 18 Intersangha meeting:

1. 3 Jewels Yoga
2. Kaiser Brookside
3. Kaiser Tanasbourne
4. Heart of Wisdom
5. Hood River (Wednesday)
6. Vancouver

Limor also attended the meeting as a non-voting representative of the Forest Grove weekly meeting. Semi attended as Intersangha Co-chair.

Weekly meeting reports

In general, many of the meetings currently online have held a steady number of attendees (ranging from 8 to 20), while some have experienced a reduction in meeting attendance.

- The Monday night Dharma Rain meeting is looking for a new secretary to take over on August 1.
- The Monday morning Friends of Dhamma has a low attendance (less than 5 each week).

Proposals Considered and Voted On

The weekly meeting representatives considered and unanimously passed these two proposals --

1

Quarterly Intersangha Meeting Attendance and Quorum proposal

At quarterly Intersangha meetings, a quorum of representation of 60% of weekly meetings is required to take a vote. A quorum cannot be reached to vote on important issues when weekly meetings do not participate in the Intersangha meeting (each meeting is counted towards the total required for a quorum).

It is proposed that if a weekly meeting is not represented at two quarterly Intersangha meetings in a row, that meeting will not be counted towards the total number of meetings in order to determine whether the 60% quorum has been reached.

Should the weekly meeting affected by this proposal be represented at a later quarterly Intersangha meeting, its presence will again be counted towards the quorum determination.

2

RDPDX Intersangha Working Group Decision-making proposal

The Intersangha Working group meets once a month (except August and December) to assist with event/workshop planning and meeting needs, and to track emerging issues. Minor decisions regarding these topics (such as length of event, time of event, support of meetings) are reached by discussion and general consensus.

Currently, binding votes regarding Intersangha business, rules and actions are only permitted at the quarterly Intersangha meetings. In order to facilitate decision making, when necessary, on important topics that emerge between these quarterly meetings, it is proposed that:

1. Going forward, the Intersangha Working Group, which consists of elected officers and the chairpeople of each committee, will be permitted to take votes on issues that affect the Intersangha. These votes may occur at the monthly meetings, or in extremely urgent moments, with a majority of the working group via an in-person meeting or electronic channels.
2. Votes at the Working Group level are approved when a majority votes in favor of a proposal. Votes are not approved when a majority votes against the proposal. If an officer position is vacant, that position does not count towards the total and the majority proportion.
3. If the Working Group approves or denies a proposal, the Intersangha, at a quarterly Intersangha meeting, has the right to reverse that approval or denial. If the Intersangha votes to reverse a Working Group decision, the Working Group may not take up that issue for a vote for 6 months after the Intersangha's reversal.
4. All Working Group decisions reached by a vote shall be announced to the Intersangha via the RDPDX newsletter and appropriate social media channels, and at the next Intersangha meeting.
5. Starting in 2021, all Committee Chairs shall be elected to the chair positions at the annual Intersangha meeting at which officer elections are held. Elected positions provide Intersangha support for the Committee Chairs participating in decision-making voting as outlined above.

BIPOC Initiative

Jess provided on the Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) initiative. Results from the survey submissions made after the June 19 BIPOC forum indicated that sangha members are interested in a book club-type of effort for the consideration and discussion of racism and anti-racist efforts. An anti-racism resource and event page on the Recovery Dharma Portland website is proposed. An opt-in newsletter focused on anti-racism in the context of mindfulness is also proposed. Indications that separate spaces are needed for emotional processing of racial issues. Anti-racism facilitators are being considered.

Treasurer Report

The Intersangha Treasurer, provided this report for JohnTony to deliver: There is \$875.15 in the OnPoint account. \$100 will be required to renew the Multnomah County business license required for the checking account to exist.

JohnTony will need to be reimbursed for the Intersangha Zoom account subscription fee (\$15/month)

Committee Reports

Michael reported that the Wise Friendship Committee is looking to hold a second workshop this year, this one focused on wise inquiries.

Jess reported that the Program Committee continues to look at financial process addiction workshop later this year.

New Business

JohnTony reported that the Co-Treasurer and the Co-Secretary positions are vacant and volunteers are being sought; he asked meeting representatives to make this announcement at weekly meetings

Jeremy proposed that up to \$200 be spent on Recovery Dharma books and fliers promoting Recovery Dharma Portland meetings. Books and fliers to be distributed at treatment facilities/centers. The proposal was unanimously approved.

Joseph reported that a new in-person meeting may begin in The Dalles in a yoga studio space

Johntony to work with Gordon regarding creating a way to collect dana electronically. Jon suggested that a business license will allow PayPal and Venmo donations to go directly into the Intersangha bank account.

The meeting adjourned.