

Recovery Dharma PDX InterSangha Working Group Meeting

June 12 2021 11:00am-12:00pm

Purpose: Monthly leadership meeting

Format: Agenda with topics presented by Chairs for discussion and/or voting

Present: Semi (Chair), Dawn (Secretary), Michael (Wise Friend's Chair), Jeremy (Unity Chair), Scott (Co-Treasurer), Jess (Program's Chair), Bryan (Co-Chair), Jon (Communication's Chair), and Jacob (RD Participant)

Absent: Zanny (Co-Secretary), and Gordon (Treasurer)

Meetings: Second Saturday of each month from 11:00am to 12:00pm to include quarterly InterSangha meetings

Old Business

- Imbedded passwords are an option. Let Semi know if you want one for your meeting.
- Agreed to donate 20% to RD national at the end of each quarterly InterSangha meeting. These are available funds beyond our agreed upon reserves.
- Women's Westside meeting remains pending. Waiting for Limor to update us on status and any support needed.
- Reminder for meeting Secretaries to let participants know how to provide dana using the website donation option.
- Buddhist Global Relief would accept donations. Michael attended the last retreat (Brahma Vihara's led by Bhikkhu Bodhi and available at <https://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org/spring-retreat-2021/>). Another event is anticipated for the fall and we could donate then. Friends of Dhamma also has a walk-a-thon, which is another option. Need to thoughtfully plan a supported event.

Programs Update/Discussion (Jess)

- Dave Smith half-day workshop had 52 registrants/36 participants and raised \$1,396.45 of which Dave was paid \$500, per the agreement we signed with him. Survey results came in from 13 responders, which were mostly highly rated. There was a suggestion to start the event later to avoid conflicting with regular RD meetings; break timing; follow-up email process for registration (some automated option is preferred, therefore, using Eventbrite is recommended) and self-promotion needs to be limited to the end of the program.
- For future events if we are paying for presentation services by a speaker, then we should ask the speaker to limit self-promotion.
- Jess is going to figure out the cost of an Eventbrite subscription to integrate registration payments and a deadline for signing up.
- Heart of Wisdom is back open for in-person and an option for a future workshop, which could be hybrid virtual.

Wise Friendship Update/Discussion (Michael)

- Committee met and moving forward with August workshop on Wise Intention. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26th.
- Mentorship Meeting is not happening well with respect to participation. Do we want to consider asking group Secretaries to encourage mentorship, which is an integral component of 12 Step Programs? Do we need a promotional script, which could encourage people to reach out to one another?
- Jess suggested that the Wise Friendship Committee consider a 1-hour workshop on how to cultivate mentors. Identify the pain points, like time (1 mentee) and experience (support from Wise Friends). Challenge the community to consider mentorship if they meet some minimum criteria.

Unity Update/Discussion (Jeremy)

- In-person park event went great! There was Karaoke, bocce ball, frisbee, hully hoop, dancing and food.
- Considering a Heart of Wisdom teaching and fellowship event.

Treasure's Update/Discussion (Scott)

- Business checking account has \$1,746.46 and the PayPal account has \$1,846.72 for a total of \$3,593.18.
- Reserves of \$1,000 is prudent, which was further increased to \$1,100 for meeting materials (see below).
- Do we want to consider a retreat, which would bring people in from across the region? A combined Unity and Programs event.
- Ongoing discussion about sending funds to National (20% of what is in excess of reserves).
- Establish an ongoing donation for Brookside Residential Meeting books. Discussion about the importance of providing books for regular meetings. Dawn proposed 5-10 books for Brookside group, which Michael seconded; motion passed with 2 abstentions.
- Another motion by Jeremy to increase the reserves by \$100 (\$25 for Brookside books and \$75 for other RD meeting books) and seconded by Semi; unanimous approval.

Chair Update/Discussion (Semi and group)

- Zoom meetings being bombed, but on a limited basis. Apparently, people are promoting this activity via Twitter. We want to limit this type of harassment for our community members. Suggested that we lock people out of meetings after xx number of minutes and/or remove people from meetings.
- Discussion about Brent (CO RD person visiting Portland) and his efforts around prison and trauma outreach programs.
- Discussion about the importance of community and sending a Portland representative to the annual RD meeting coming up in Florida July 16-18th

(<https://recoverydharma.org/conferences/2021-sangha-summit>) in order to connect with others and bring back information to share. Jeremy made a motion to participate, as long as we paid his airfare and lodging. Semi made a second motion to create a contest for another person to go as well (2 people paying for airfare and lodging); almost unanimous with one abstention. Jon to get contest rules and application process on the Portland RD website ASAP.

- Michael has some extra Refuge Recovery books and 2 RD books. Michael is going to contact someone from RR and donate these to their program. The 2 RD books can go to Brookside.
- Jacob, as an observer, really liked the recent park Unity event. He said it would be hard to ask someone to be a mentor. Question about the roles between being a mentor and a mentee.