

## **Milwaukee Zen Center Board Meeting, August 2**

**Meeting via Zoom was called to order at 11:02am.**

*Present:* Susan Winecki, Bob Balderson, Reirin Gumbel, Greg York, Todd Krohn, Isabel Kent.

**Minutes of June 14, 2020 meeting approved, 5-0;** Greg moved, Todd seconded.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Greg provided the following report:

#### Overview

- Current available cash \$34,250 (up \$1,769 from June report).
  - Facilities Fund: \$5,497
  - Retired Teachers Fund: \$430 (*corrected from \$330*)
  - Scholarship Fund: \$720
- Available cash at the beginning of last fiscal year was \$26,530.
- Our largest income sources in July (*corrected from May*) were Membership Dues \$2,007, General Donations \$303 and Inventory Sales \$221.
- Our largest expense categories in May were Payroll \$1,400, Utilities \$369 and Bank Fees \$155.

#### Highlights

- We remain highly favorable for the year.
- Elected not to do online billpay through Associated Bank due to cost and inconvenience.
- Would like to consider Educator's Credit Union instead of Associated Bank based on bank fees, lack of services (online primarily) and convenience.

Bob proposed that there may be certain services that only a bank can provide. Greg will be gathering more info on the services Educator's Credit Union offers. Bob moved that Greg, through an investigation of Educator's Credit Union and how it applies to MZC's financial situation, switch the MZC account to ECU if he finds this to be appropriate. Todd seconded and the motion passed, 5-0.

Bob also recommended looking into investments and suggested using Vanguard. Reirin and Susan suggested that the investments should be socially responsible. Todd also asked if there is a statement in the bylaws about appropriate investing. Bob will look into this.

Todd moved to accept the report as amended and Bob seconded. The motion was approved, 5-0.

### **Priest's Report**

Reirin provided the following report:

In the last two months, Reirin participated in the following social Justice engagements:

- Caravan to Madison
- Juneteenth Event on Downer
- “Meals for Hungry Hearts” with Tippecanoe Church
- Poor People's Campaign (strike at McDonald's on Capitol)
- MICAH involvement through BPF (RLC)
- Interfaith work
- Buddhist-Catholic Dialog on Climate Change
- Hosting Interfaith Cabinet
- Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice webinars
- Recording of Peace Statement for DNC
- Letter Writing Retreats

Other:

- Jeanne Lowry funeral (49 days)
- SZBA program on White Supremacy and Climate Justice
- Dokusan with various students
- Interim Class

Upcoming Events:

- Full Moon ceremony tomorrow morning
- Hokyoji Jewel Mirror Sesshin – MZC closed 8/10 – 8/15
- Election Retreat on 8/21
- Guesthouse Meal 8/24
- SZBA Conference 9/3-4
- Fall Practice Period 9/12 – 11/7
- New classes

Other issues:

- Zoom/Zendo participation is going well.
- Work Day successful. Another will be held in fall.
- Bob fixed and painted the shed door.
- New Jizo statue on the patio.
- Reirin would like Committee for writing statements on ethics, grievance policies, being on Indian land.
- Acquired books from Lowry estate for our library.
- Old website needs to be taken down. Greg is looking into this.

### **Old Business**

Bob addressed a couple of maintenance items. The dripping over the steps has been corrected. Matt cleaned out basement. The screens on the windows by the doan cushion are in bad shape. Bob will take these out and re-screen them.

Reirin reported that paint is peeling off of her bathroom floor and she spoke to Bob about having it re-tiled. Reirin will ask Matt if he's able to do this. The board is prepared to pay him for his work.

**New Business**

Bob moved that the board reimburse Reirin \$250 for the cost of the new Jizo statue she purchased for the patio and Todd seconded. The motion passed, 5-0.

Bob asked whether there is a current roster of MZC members. Greg reported that there are 41 members currently and he will look into how many members are at each donation level. Susan will ask Mary to make a membership roster available to the board.

Since MZC has the funds to do so, Bob suggested constructing a second egress from the third floor, which would need to be on the east side of the building. Bob will research this and get some estimates.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday, October 4, 11:00am - 1:00pm.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 12:06pm.

Isabel Kent,  
Secretary