

## Community Meeting 7 September 2020

Present: Andre, Michelle, Lynn, Muffie, Chris, Pavel, LaDawn

### Update on reopening plans and survey results

- ROTA responses indicate only 5 potential in-person umdzes and 2 Kasung. One umdze/Kasung will only volunteer if Arizona is below the benchmarks established for reopening schools. This might not be enough to run Sunday and Wednesday sittings.
- Community responses indicate limited interest in in-person meetings. Only 10 people replied of the 60 or so surveys sent out. Only 50% wanted in-person meetings.
- Sarpashana attendees would prefer to meet in person, but the group's format requires talking, so they would need to be reminded that masks are mandatory even while talking. Meeting outside would be an alternative.
- Changing weather might affect the decision: we might be able to meet with windows open or outside.
- It might be appropriate to have a small group start meeting and coordinate their own details to start with.
- The group decided to table the Sunday/Wednesday reopening discussion for the October meeting, and list all October sittings as online only. Meanwhile, Sarpashana will do trial meetings in person with mandatory masks, which will allow us to test the in-person process and a process for holding hybrid in-person/online meetings. This will be a soft launch and not listed as in-person on our website yet.
- Addition to the proposed guidelines: if masks are mandatory, then chanting and conversation may be allowable.
- We will need to check on the A/C so that it's on for Sarpashana. Muffie will check.

### Financial update

- Financials through August have been [posted](#).
- Income was about \$1000 higher than expenses for August. This does not reflect some wrap-up expenses for Level 2, though.
- Membership dues have fallen very slightly but are still above \$1000.
- Our rent discount will go through October, then Barbara will discuss with Richard.

- Our payment to Shambhala Global Services will now be by mailing a check rather than direct debit. We will pay \$100 per month for the time being, until we decide otherwise. Muffie will follow up on other payment options.
- Barbara sent an update about the potential sublet. This is a Christian group affiliated with Greater Works International Ministries Prayer Group and Knight's Movement. Barbara suggested not committing to this at this time since so much is currently unknown, but we could meet with them again in the future. The group decided to go with Barbara's suggestion.

#### P&E update including Harvest of Peace planning

- Harvest of Peace can include an online Shambhala Sadhana, followed by virtual tea/conversation/sharing circle. Pavel can lead the Sadhana and facilitate a "what am I letting go of/what am I aspiring to" share. We can also share recipes, by encouraging people to send them in advance and then distributing them during the event; Chris will compile. Chris will scan a PDF copy of the Sadhana.
- Shambhala Online is offering a Harvest of Peace Sunday Gathering on 9/27 at 12 pm our time; we would probably not include this as part of our schedule for the day, but can encourage our community to sign in on their own.
- We will schedule Harvest of Peace for September 27, starting with the Sadhana at 9:30, followed by tea/conversation/sharing circle. There will not be a regular sitting, but the Sadhana will be preceded by a short sitting. Michelle will send an email invitation to members and friends, including a suggestion to send recipes and contemplate the "what am I letting go of/what am I aspiring to" questions to share with the group.
- Chris is working on a manual for online programs, and will offer training sessions for staffing online programs. She will send an invitation to those who are able to staff programs (Level 3 and above).
- Chris is looking for a moderator for WIEL starting October 1.
- LA is hosting Level 3, and we will schedule Levels 4 and 5 in the spring. We're getting a good turnout from all over the country, and a few from Canada.
- LA recently offered a class on the 4 Reminders and they are willing to do it for Phoenix in January.
- The December weekthun has been cancelled. Chris is considering offering a different program in December; send her any ideas you have for programs.

Next meeting: Sunday, October 11 at 11:30

Agenda:

- Update on reopening plans
- Financial update
- Proposal for decluttering the Center