

Board of Directors Meeting
October 22, 2007

Present: Jay Hook, Sherry Mason, Ronnie Shaefer, Barbara Kohn, Paula Gable, John Grimes (recording)

Absent: Jimi Ballard, Kojin Dinsmore

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm followed by a brief period of silence.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by voice vote.

Jay presented the treasurer's report that included a "broad strokes" comparison of '06 and '07' budgets and prospective '08 budget, current year-to-date P/L budget/actuals and his analysis of pledge trends '06 and '07. Briefly, he thinks reducing projected gross income to \$93K may be overdoing it; AZC is staying essentially on budget currently; he expects that the expected reduction in pledges for '08 will be minimal. The current percentage of realized pledges is in line with last year; however the board agreed to repeat last year's series of emails from individual board members to the membership encouraging fulfilling of pledges and renewing. Jay will do this 11/3, Sherry 11/10, Paula 11/17, Ronnie 11/21 and Jimi 12/1.

The winter pledge drive was discussed. Paula and Chris Lance are currently working on collateral material. Elizabeth is designing the end-of-year card.

There was a discussion of the mission statement. Barbara's revised statement was accepted by voice vote:

Austin Zen Center, Zenkeiji Temple, is dedicated to providing Zen Buddhist practice, training and teaching to all who wish to participate. We will make accessible and embody practices reflecting the wisdom and compassion of the Buddha. Austin Zen Center follows the Soto Zen lineage of Shunryu Suzuki Roshi and the San Francisco Zen Center.

Barbara gave the teacher's report that included a revision of next year's calendar away from the structure of 12-week practice periods. Instead there will be three month-long intensive periods and three sessions of classes. The classes and the intensive periods will not run at the same time.

A nominating committee for the upcoming board election was formed. Sherry, Paula and Ronnie will find candidates to fill Jimi and Jay's positions whose one year terms expire.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting will be November 26th at 7:00 pm.