

March 31, 1969 Board Meeting- Chief Priest
of Zen Center.

ORIGINAL - DO NOT
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present: Suzuki Roshi, Ryogen Sensei, Silas Hoadley, Claude Dalenber
Peter Schneider, Tim Buckley, Jean Ross, Yvonne Rand.
Yvonne Rand--chairman protem.

Peter S. read the minutes of the Jan 25th meeting.

Paragraph one-- is this in fact our policy with respect to our
mailing list?

our real reason is not stated--should it be?

Tim B. we seem to have some difficulty in working with other
Buddhist groups. there is some reticence on our part. are
we setting ourselves as arbitors of Buddhist taste?

e.g. Maezumi Sensei and the LA Zen Center

Warwic- and the Mt. Yogis

Rochester group and Kapleau

Peter- actually I think that we are the most co-operative of the
Zen groups.

Tim- idealistically it is best to support other Buddhist groups.

We should be aware of the tendency we have to be aloof-or remove

Peter-prefer to keep the mailing list policy nebulous. Then decide
each time a request is made on an individual basis.

all in favor of striking the policy statement in PPl of the informal
minutes for the formal minutes.

Do we want to delite the entire paragraph?

Formal minutes--

Claude- Roshi should sign these to indicate concurrence with the
Board.

Peter- prefer not to have Roshi sign the minutes. More to his way
not to do so.

Roshi- if I read the minutes and disagree with something I will say
so. I don't think that we should give our mailing list so
easily. People have given us names often because of the
special relationship they have with us.

Silas:- proposed that we have a list of resolutions which we extract
from the minutes which Roshi signs.

Tim-- when we set up the Board of Directors there were some ideas
about the central organization for Zen Center. We must soon
decide about relationship between the Board and the students.
There must be some access - some communication with the students.
propose we discuss this at the next meeting.

Claude-- danger that we will railroad things through Roshi when he
doesn't get the nuances of our discussions-if we speak
quickly etc.

Roshi- I will read the minutes of the meetings I am not attending and
if there is something with which I disagree I will bring it up.

Claude- I thought that there was a separation between Roshi and the
Board. Our form is that.

Peter- we are talking about the impossibility of meeting when in
fact we are meeting.

Minutes--Roshi will sign the informal minutes if we want him to.

Claude- are we going to be a rubber stamp group?

Roshi- right now- there is no need to sign. If something happens and there is a need, you have that feeling, then I will sign.

Being here to help you establish American Zen- I am not forcing something. I am not sticking to the Japanese way. Most of the time I don't have a special idea about how things should be.

If I have some feeling about how things should be and find I am right I will discuss it and ask you to discuss it. The advantage to my signing the minutes is that I would have to be more careful if I am signing my name to them. Claude has proposed my signing maybe because he is thinking of the future. Right now maybe too formal.

Silas- some instances when legally we have to have Roshi sign. propose that we listing the resolutions to be accepted or rejected at the following meeting. and regard the informal minutes as informal. not necessary that Roshi sign them. resolve: formal records of the Board of Directors meetings be limited to specific resolutions. all in favor

A Peter: use reading of the minutes as a way of dealing with old business.

Reports-

Old Business

Claude-1) Building Committee-still never met. all of the re-modeling plans for Sokoji have been dropped. No new plans yet.

Roshi guesses that we may be here for 3 or 4 years. We should have a meeting with Hagiwara-but specific topics to be discussed have disappeared.

Silas- no time to make an extension in building plans.

Claude- dual use of the Main Hall. Lets take out the first two rows of pews

Roshi- Japanese members will discuss what they will do. some of their ideas are

- 1) building a new building on Buchanan - the place is not wide enough so they will have to have some other income property.
- 2) if too expensive build temple only
- 3) stay here and mend the building
- 4) floor in the 2nd floor over the Main Hall (Roshi's idea)

It is time to ask "Do you want Zen Center to stay here?"

Discuss with Kawashiri: if he says we'll think about it.

We'll discuss it-then we must wait. Do not ask about service in the Main Hall now. Silas will try to speak to Kawashiri this week to ask if Sokoji wants Zen Center to remain here.

If they want us to leave we have to ask them if we can stay one or two years. We cannot do anything unless we know.

2) Nature Conservancy Land- we want to visit in May- Peter, Claude, Silas

Yvonne and Tim want to go.

3) Shuso - Jean will be shuso. Peter- can you come next Fall, Jean?

Jean- yes, that's what I'd like. my aunt and mother are taken care of now. that can change anytime. I'll do whatever you want.

Peter- better if Jean could come for a longer period of time.

Jean- whatever you want Roshi-- it might be better to wait.

Roshi- you should be shuso because that was our plan. As I don't know the circumstances at Tassajara and with Jean I stick to that idea. If you can give me some informations I may change my idea.

Peter- Americans take shuso idea too seriously. Shuso should be the mos

t respected student who's not been shuso

who becomes the older brother or sister for the other monks. It takes time to build the relationship. There would be good feeling if Jean is shuso-but better if she was there for longer time. It would be interesting to have a training period without a shuso. makes for freedom ~~xx~~ for Roshi to say sometimes there is no student old enough to be shuso.

Roshi- it is all right to have no shuso for this training period.

4) more students for stick and service?

Roshi- we need more.

Silas- is the ~~xx~~ 5:00 a.m. period a formal period? Morning greeting is given now at that period.

Roshi- better to have greeting 2nd period. No student should make the greeting.

women carry the stick? Roshi- we can try it.

Peter- doesn't work at Tassajara.

Roshi- ask the women if they want to do it.

Jean- personally I feel a hesitancy .

ask Jane .

5) Silas nominated Claude 1st vice president. Peter seconded.

Peter, Silas, Jean were in favor. Tim opposed.

discussion-

Tim-- what does the first vice president ^{do}? What is his definition?

is it vice president in charge of urban affairs or vice president as second voice for zen center.

Silas- I'm unhappy about the split in our concerns between Tassajara and San Francisco. I don't see Peter coming to San Francisco for an extended stay in the next several years.

Peter- the reasons are largely financial.

Silas- perhaps officers jobs should or could be part time.

Peter- it is a full time job to keep everyone informed and also working with student problems.

1st vice president perhaps should be old time director of Zen Mountain Center.

proposed Article VI Section V

There shall be as many vice presidents as the Board of Directors and the Chief Priest deem necessary. The vice president(s) shall have such powers and perform such duties as the Board of Directors and the Chief Priest may from time to time prescribe and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in these by-laws. The Board of Directors and the Chief Priest shall appoint a president pro tem from among the vice presidents in the absence or inability to act of the president, and the president pro tem shall perform all duties and may exercise any of the powers of the president, subject to the control of the Board of Directors and the Chief Priest until a new president is elected by the Board of Directors and the Chief Priest.

Peter made the motion and Jean seconded. all were in favor.

6) new concert ideas-

Tim- the Christopher Tree concert we lost \$4.00. Publicity reached the Japanese community. we received notices in the Japanese papers. its worth pursuing a few more times. we should find this more widely accessible to more people.

Peter- Roshi's friend in L.A. who plays shaguhachi-ask him to give a concert.

Roshi- he might like to. I'll ask him.

Peter- an opportunity to have outlets for activities which the Japanese community doesn't have outlets for. E.G. the chanting. a poster and 2 advertisements (Chron and Jap. Paper) all that seems necessary.

Tim- we should combine events and make a longer program

Lou Harrison for example

Peter- Lou Harrison plays Korean and Japanese instruments. Chinese Opera. He's putting on a program of religious music in Menlo Park at St. Bedes Episcopalean Church. He wants us to do chanting and meal sutras etc as part of the program.

Dan Welch is concerned -is it too much of a profane use of chanting esp if we do it without a priest.

Roshi- if Lou Harrison is a sincere person we should join him.

Peter- let David Chadwick organize it. what do weXX allow of "accompanying" instruments. the religious soulds-eg bells, Han, drum.

Silas- have Peter over-see it.

adjourn for lunch to 1:30p.m.

aft agenda- By Law changes

Berkeley Zendo

Finances Dick's money

Ryogen's money
summer Scholarships

ZMC staff income-medical needs/personal needs.

Elect officers-when

re-adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

present Suzuki, Roshi, Silas, Claude, Peter, Bill Kwong, Jean, Ryogen, Yvonne.

Silas read excerpts from the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 1968 see attached copy. for resolutions passed.

Claud read minutes of meeting from Dec. 19th, 1968 see attached copy resolved by Peter- start with the financial discussion forthe aft.

1) finances for Ryogen Yoshimura Sensei

Zen Center will provide House, Utilities, Hospitolization plus \$240.00 per month.

Tim-research carefully on hospitolization. Blue Cross seems to pose real difficulties.

Tim will try to get information on possiblilities.

starting up expenses for Yoshimura Sensei

Claude- 40-paint

30-hardware

25 chairs

145 linens and household supplies

for about 150.dollars, buying second hand we could furnish the apt. more fully.

Peter- new at \$500 or used at \$150. for furniture.

Silas- proposed that we make an allowance for Ryogen to furnish his apartment, but that we let him do it himself. Ask Roshi to consult with Katagiri to arrive at an amount of allowance for furniture.

all were in favor of Silas' plan

Claude- Ryogen Sensei-what about the money we sent for passage and moving expenses money?

Yvonne read letter from Ryogen stating that he had to get a loan fro his sister to cover the expenses fxxxx for coming to U.S. for 200,000yen = \$559.35

Peter proposed that we pay that debt. Jean seconded. all were in favor.

2) Dick Baker's finances

Silas- to date we have paid Dick the equivalent of his \$300 salary through July.

Roshi- we should help him as a student studying in Japan. whatever

Whatever is necessary to study in Japan. If the expense is for other reasons I don't know. I want Dick for one or two years to devote himself to personal study. Then he can act as a kind of ambassador to Japan. We may ask him to help us. In that case we should help him- with directly related expenses.

Silas- open ended financial arrangement. Dick sends us expenses and we will send him what he needs. We trust his judgment. that arrangement is a fait accompli so far. So far Dick has informed us of expenses after they're ~~maxx~~ incurred. Silas proposed \$400.00 per month- that should be enough to cover special expenses. back date from the beginning to November. Send \$400 mid april for June.

all in favor.

Should we expect Dick to work part time to make up additional expenses?

Claude- an advantage to have contact with the Japanese people in language study. We don't have the right to ask Dick to work. I might suggest that as a friend-say after 6 months of intensive study.

Peter- Dick is exceptional. Dick will be invaluable in a few years. for American Zen in Japan. His energy at Tassajara made an enormous difference for Zen in America. Dick may be able to open things up. I don't understand how Dick works, I don't work his way, he's invaluable.

Silas- wants to handle financial arrangements with Dick.

Silas proposed paying Dick in 3 month blocks.

Claude- where will the money come from?

Silas- guest 4, student fees, students money's, Mr. Johnson's gift. or a combination of things?

try to set up a fund for students in Japan. Might have to borrow from other areas of our income.

Silas will make a proposal for different kinds of special funds which we may want to have. eg student funds for study in Japan.

Peter seconded Silas' proposal.

Silas is to establish the Board's feeling with Dick.

Peter- money well spent for Zen Center to support Dick. a human resource. he is and will be invaluable for Zen Center and for Zen in America. I want some of the positive emotion communicated.

Peter- Silas- in representing finances with Dick you should represent the relationship between Zen Center and Dick.

Roshi- Dick is not an employee. We sent him to Japan because of his potentiality.. We think he will be a good priest/or Zen Buddhist. That is the main reason. Tassajara wants to support someone like him. Not because he will help Tassajara, because we want to help Zen in America- and he will help Zen in America. Of course in the future he will help to support Tassajara at the same time. Develop our way. Also he will help/ to develop Tassajara. Eventually he will understand it in that way. Right now we are involved in problems with Tassajara. Most important thing is Tassajara now. We are liable to loose this point

Peter- if Dick is a student then he should not be doing any Zen Center business in Japan

Roshi- I want him to devote himself to his study. Not do Zen Center business, as much as possible, right now.

Silas- when Dick asked us why we were sending him to Japan

1- because Roshi wanted him to go

2- because we wanted him to go for Zen Center.

we're sending him there to study Buddhism. What ever that means to him we have to trust.

Tim- How are we going to send him his finances.?

Silas will take care of it. All were in favor.

Tim- moved that we elect officers at the May meeting. Jean seconded and all were in favor.

By law changes for the next meeting- all were in favor.

Berkeley Zendo-

Silas- out of conversation with Paul Discoe it seems that the students in Berkeley want some more clear affiliation with Zen Center.

Tassajara finances

Silas- a number of students are not paying \$2.50 per day. the criteria varies.

Paul Discoe doesn't pay because initially he was more valuable to us for his skills than as a student. that has changed.

Ed Brown, Niels, Dan and Louis, Peter, and Tim.

Scholarships at Tassajara- Necessary for the Board to decide a policy.

Peter- I asked Roshi about whether Dan and Louise and I should leave Tassajara long enough to earn some money. Roshi wants some students to stay on for continuity of spirit.

Jean- people who are useful-no problem. give some monthly stipend for personal expenses. confusions comes about who is on the staff and who is not.

Alan Winter- should he have a scholarship for the summer?

Peter- Alan is at Zen Mountain Center because he's doing Tassajara a favor. Do we in fact want the favor?

Silas- he can handle the guest cook's job.

Peter- we do in fact give scholarships with out regard to a person's practice or need?

Jean- have staff scholarships and decide which are staff positions.

Silas- I understood that Roshi wanted us to work with Alan for some time.

Roshi- now he is much better. Trouble, if we call it scholarship.

In some cases we call it pay. If we give some scholarship it means we acknowledge someone's practice.

Peter- scholarship is not the term I use.

Claude- what's best for a student is best for Tassajara.

Peter- staff is not a good term work scholarship is a clear term. staff scholarship.

proposed that we used those two distinctions.

staff scholarship designates more than a work responsibility.

Mel received scholarship. He wants to stay on. Do we want to

continue to give him a scholarship. He's not in either category really.
Leave the decision to Roshi.
Silas- proposed that Peter be given a stipend. of \$100. all in favor.
Roshi- in the Japanese way you treat your whole life as a Zen student.

adjenda next time:

by-laws

branch zendos

elect officers

finances

officers salaries

insurance

Tim will be chairman pro tem

adjorned.