

IWM Board Meeting Summary Notes
Thursday, April 15, 2021
7:30-8:30pm
Via ZOOM

Present: Hal, Keila, Lucy, trellis

Absent: Tara, Bernadine, Elizabeth

Facilitator: Lucy **To-do list:** Keila **Minutes:** Keila

The Board meeting began with a continuation of earlier discussions around growing the Board and having an open process for this, including drafting a Board “job description” and sending out an announcement to the sangha so that people can nominate potential Board members. Because of the Board’s and staff’s limited capacity at the moment, there was a proposal to ask Joyce if she’s willing to be hired as a consultant to help with this process. This proposal was unanimously approved.

Next the Board discussed parsonage allowances. There was a proposal to continue a housing allowance for Tara for \$18,000 (this is a tax filing issue; the sangha does not pay \$18K). This proposal was unanimously approved.

The Board then discussed fundraising ideas. The Board expressed a desire to have an open fundraising process that allows for the sangha’s participation. There was a proposal to have a town hall in May or early June, but this proposal was tabled (perhaps consider in September). The Board also discussed having meetings with small groups and individual sangha supporters, writing an annual report, and writing a fundraising letter. Need for a multi-angled approach, and various levels of engagement for folks.

The Board also discussed having an outdoor Vesak celebration, including the possibility of having this celebration in conjunction with the daily Peace Sits and possible dates for the celebration.

Additional items discussed:

- What to list on the updated Eastworks building directory (IWM’s new name + “formerly Insight Meditation Center of Pioneer Valley” won’t fit): There was a proposal to add “Insight Western Mass (formerly IPV),” which was unanimously approved.
- Potential outdoor locations for Jesse Maceo Vega-Frey’s October retreat.
- Changing Mass Gov records to be in line with IRS “church” status: Hal Fales (secretary) will be the contact person on letter to the state.
- Website updates for Board/PL’s/Volunteers/Staff
- Other sangha members to invite to join the Scheduling Committee