

IWM Board Meeting Summary Notes
Thursday, June 17, 2021
6:30-8:00pm
Via ZOOM

Ruth Folchman joined for part of this Board meeting to give an update about the governance research that she and Lore have been doing. Ruth and Lore have interviewed other sanghas about their governance structure, and they have looked at other sanghas' websites. There was a discussion about whether it would be useful to talk with larger sanghas and/or with smaller sanghas, and the group decided it would be useful to talk with both. The Board also provided suggestions of other specific sanghas that Lore and Ruth could talk to. The Board and Ruth discussed how to bring others in the IWM community, including teachers, practice leaders, and sangha members, into the conversation about IWM's governance structure. The group discussed writing up findings from Lore and Ruth's interviews, including what technology may be useful in this effort (e.g., Otter, a voice transcription software). Lore and Ruth will put together a report about their findings. Ruth and Lore will further consider how to share their findings with the larger sangha and will follow up with the Board about this.

During this meeting the Board also reviewed IWM's budget and brainstormed ways to increase donations given to the IWM for particular offerings. The budget review conversation included considerations of how to keep IWM's costs low, such as by printing fewer marketing materials and by not using the AC this year since IWM won't be opening until the fall. The YTD budget summary is below:

- Income: as of June 3: \$22,606.37 // as of June 16: \$26,769.77
- Expenses: as of June 3: \$33,982.32 // as of June 16: \$34,113.60
- Deficit: as of June 3: -\$11,375.95 // as of June 16: -\$7,343.83

The Board also discussed potential fundraising initiatives, such as possibly hosting a fundraising event with a high-profile teacher and/or writing a fundraising letter. One goal of a fundraising letter would be to make it transparent to the sangha that IWM needs more funding to cover the cost of its operations. The Board discussed dana, its centrality to the Buddhist path. Part of moving toward becoming a more sangha-led community includes cultivating a greater sense of ownership of the sangha among community members.

Additional items discussed:

- The Board went into Executive Session.
- A gift for Tara to honor her time as interim Guiding Teacher.