

Insight Meditation Community of Western Massachusetts Board of Directors - Role Description and Nominating Process

Overview

Serving on the Board of Directors provides a wonderful opportunity to work with others in support of offering the Buddha's teachings, to sustain and deepen meditation practice, and to bring wisdom and compassion into daily life.

The Board is the governing body of the organization and is responsible for its finances and strategic planning. The Board is empowered to direct, control and manage the Center's affairs and is property subject to its by-laws.

It is a working board, so in addition to decisions about governance, Board members carry out vital functions of the center in cooperation with paid staff/consultants, the Teachers Council, and sangha members. The Board strives to make decisions through consensus and may move forward with a simple majority.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Attend monthly board meetings regularly, currently second Thursdays of each month (2 hours), with additional meetings on third Thursdays as necessary.
- Serve on a committee, task force, or in another leadership role (e.g. practice leader, facilitator, teacher) or as a Board officer.
- Read and respond to email/text/phone correspondence related to Board matters in a timely manner.
- Subscribe to community email newsletters and stay abreast of current offerings and sangha issues.
- Support the sangha with your presence at open practice, special events, courses, and/or retreats, as well as in the larger Dharma communities, as you are able.
- Support the sangha financially -- and participate in fundraising initiatives -- as you are able. There is absolutely no minimum that needs to be met and you are the arbiter of "as you are able."
- Other work as is necessary.
- Time commitment varies; usually 2-5 hours per week.

Related Expectations:

- Will have an interest in the health and sustainability of IWM including supporting a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere where values of equity and justice are held in community.
- Will adhere to the Ethics guidelines of the sangha.
- Will strive to walk the Eight-fold path. Will have a commitment to practice Wise Speech during and between meetings to other board members and to the sangha.
- Will act with the best interests of the sangha at heart, and be willing to listen, learn, and speak with an open heart.
- Will have a commitment to practice and to attending Buddhist meditation retreat(s) as they are able.

Types of experience/expertise generally needed:

Organizational governance/stewardship/administration/management

Program development and/or facilitation
Communications and social media
Facility/property management (and/or securing new space)
Finance, accounting, budgeting
Fundraising
Investment expertise
Legal expertise
Computer, Technological, and Website
Human resources
Volunteer management
Community Building
Activism/social justice work
Restorative justice
Equity and inclusion experience
Teaching in Theravada tradition

Diversity/Inclusion

We seek to co-create a radically welcoming sangha that is truly open to all people and in all the ways they identify including but not limited to: race, religion, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, ability, or age.

Nomination Process

We are seeking to add new Board members and are interested in hearing from all who are interested. Please complete the application form [here](#).

If you personally aren't able to enter your name for consideration at this time and think the Board should consider reaching out to another member of the sangha, please email us at leadership@insightpv.org.

Acceptance as a board member is based on a number of factors as listed above. Please know that we will give every application all due consideration and reply to the applicant in a reasonable amount of time.

6/13/2021