

DEEP SPRING CENTER
Monthly Board of Directors Minutes
Saturday, March 22, 2025
4:00pm – 5:30pm PM EST

Board Members: Stephanie Katz, Karl Frederick, David Teare, Pat Polanski, Iris Wolfson

Board Advisor: Barbara Brodsky

Regrets: Isabelle Mook-Jodouin, Terri McClernon

Guest: None

- **Focused manifestation meditation with 3-5 minutes of silence after**

Aaron's Guidance

Aaron did not incorporate but offered the following through conscious channeling:

His blessings and love to you all. There is so much pain, so much rage and fear and grief in the world. And our practice is triply important right now. Because what we are here for, is to bring love to these places of pain and to demonstrate that just because there is pain and the causes of pain doesn't mean we have to get ensnared in that pain. When we're able to hold space for it with loving hearts, this is what will change the way these things are experienced in the world, and will ultimately lead into that tipping into positive polarity. We're very balanced between negative and positive right now. But as we're able to remember to bring compassion to our situation and to the world, that's the power that's going to shift things.

- **Vote required:** None - Iris Wolfson voted in unanimously via email poll prior to meeting

A. Monthly Reports

a. Staff Reports

i. Administrative – Tana

- See report for details

ii. Communications / Fundraising – Trish

- See report for details
- Spring fundraiser to target donors who had not recently donated to avoid donor fatigue from our most regular donors

b. Committee / Team Reports

i. Finance – David

- See report for details - finances stable for now
- David / Tana to work on Fall 2025 Maryville retreat parameters
 - Tana wants to start advertising April 15, 2025 and needs retreat description and rates

ii. Volunteer – Terri

- 2 grant researchers and 2 writers secured
 - Potential needs; Tana to get rough costs for each

- New archives site + maintenance
 - Technical support (Zoom, AC)
 - Staffing support / specific projects
 - Audiobooks
 - Scholarships for students
 - On-demand class development
- Tana to schedule a Zoom meeting with 4 volunteers and David
- iii. Archive / Technical – Isabelle
 - Nothing to report (per Isabelle’s email)
- iv. Community Building – Stephanie
 - See below Section C
- v. Outreach - Karl
 - See report for details
 - Waiting for new archives to go public to reach out to more orgs

B. Old Business - GENERAL

Date Initiated	Item Description	Who + Next action	Resolution
06/22/24	<p>IONS Conference impact on website traffic: Tana noted no large increase in traffic; Barbara had good conversations with ~10 people at the end, maybe more significant impact</p> <p>Tana offered feedback to IONS about challenges with accessibility with their system</p>	Barbara and Aaron to pick out some transcribed sections to send to IONS to explore Aaron being a speaker next time	<p>01/18/25: Tana / Karl / Barbara actively working on this</p> <p>03/22/25 – waiting for new archives site</p>
01/18/24	Books: Terri provided an update on Tavis’s work with Henry: different books are at various stages in process	Terri / Barbara to liaise with Henry / Tavis to advance work	03/22/25 – work in progress
02/15/25	<p>Dana for Teachers – Discussed allocating a portion of the program fee for teachers</p> <p>Other potential suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Adding in optional dana text box(es) for teachers into the registration form 2) Send additional reminder email a week or 10 days later <p>Portion of on-demand classes goes to Barbara (as she will not get dana for those)</p>	<p>Board members to continue to reflect on to help increase dana to Barbara</p> <p>DT to review class fee schedule/etc.</p>	<p>03/22/25 – System does not allow easy addition of dana text box in registration form; Tana to send out post-registration instead</p> <p>Board does not want to increase</p>

			<p>the low ask donation</p> <p>Tana to continue sending 2 reminder dana emails after events, incl. one a few days later; will add in number of attendees who have offered dana in second email</p> <p>Trish and Tana created automated emails for new subscribers explaining how DSC and dana work</p> <p>Barbara open to reimbursement from DSC for specific expenses (e.g. caregiving during teaching, internet) but not planning time or content development</p> <p>Board to continue to monitor</p>
02/15/25	<p>Barbara doing live interview with Bart Sharp on March 5 at 2PM</p> <p>Tana and Barbara organizing open event with Aaron a few weeks post-interview to be announced during interview</p>	<p>Tana to post announcement on website</p>	<p>03/22/25 – Completed</p>

C. Old Business – Dec 2024 Strategic meeting (priorities)

Date Initiated	Item Description	Who + Next action	Resolution
12/06/24	<p>Reserving future Maryville retreat dates (2026)</p> <p>- Weeklong (aiming for early October)</p>	<p>Barbara discussed dates with John Orr</p>	<p>03/22/25 - Completed</p>

	- 5-day	2025 = 09/12-09/18 2026 = 10/25-10/30 2027 = 09/25-10/01 2028 = 10/04-10/11	
12/06/24	Forming a retreat committee for Fall 2025 Maryville; Ruth Essig agreed to be retreat manager/co-manager Will need dedicated volunteer/team for transportation; Pat to work with Ruth to determine other needs then email to be sent to sangha	01/18/24: Pat to email Ruth to get planning started	02/15/25 – Ruth confident in being Manager; Bill to be travel coordinator No committee necessary - Pat, David, Tana, Ruth and Bill to meet a few times to hash details out Will consider adding second registration option for first weekend only 03/22/25 – Barbara to reach out this week to confirm 2025 dates
12/06/24	Attracting new Board members / Treasurer	David reaching out to G. Edwards Karl reaching out to A. Kupersmid	02/15/25 – DT talked with GE. GE said he will think about it Karl shared that A. Kupersmid not currently available to join
12/06/24	Finding grants to fund CODs, audiobooks, video editing, archives operations/maintenance	Terri and Trish to work together to send emails recruiting volunteers and put on website	02/15/25 – Terri drafted short volunteer request website for grant researcher and grant writer; Stephanie and Trish to write more fulsome job descriptions

			03/22/25 – Volunteers secured. See above for discussion
12/06/24	<p>Group discussions on Zoom with experienced volunteer facilitators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitators / Ambassadors to be vetted by Barbara <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Also need guiding facilitator to liaise with staff and support other facilitators – (Pat maybe) - Book clubs - Kalyana mitta - Class discussion groups (Tuesday class + EwA) on off-weeks - only for registered students - Welcoming committee - Staff can set up Zoom links / technology / Groups.IO, but rest would be volunteer-led - Start with class discussion groups and assess facilitators' interests and passions 	<p>Tana to send Tuesday night class lists from last 3 years to Barbara (cc: Pat) for vetting</p> <p>Tana to then email those vetted and send invite to info meeting</p> <p>Set date for info mtg</p>	<p>02/15/25 – Barbara did not receive email; Pat to forward it to her for vetting</p> <p>03/22/25 - Pat, David, Stephanie, Trish and Tana meeting to discuss further</p>
12/06/24	Recurring Sangha meeting(s) – Discussed April and September	<p>Tana/Trish to schedule email announcement for sangha meeting</p> <p>Barbara to remind class members</p>	<p>02/15/25 - Next meeting set for April 29, 7PM Eastern</p> <p>03/22/25 – SK wrote description – TD/TM to send</p>

New Business - GENERAL

Date Initiated	Item Description	Who + Next action	Resolution
03/22/25	None		

D. Next meetings: (All times in ET and on Saturdays unless noted otherwise)

- a. *April = no meeting*
- b. May 10th at 4pm
- c. June 21st at 4pm
- d. *July/August = no meetings*
- e. September 27th at 4pm
- f. October 25th at 4pm
- g. Annual Strategic Planning meeting = Friday, December 5th from 10am-4pm