

DEEP SPRING CENTER
Monthly Board of Directors Minutes
Saturday, February 28, 2026
11:00 am – 1:00pm PM EST

Board Members: Karl Frederick, Pat Polanski, Isabelle Mook-Jodouin, Terri McClernon, Rebecca Locklin, Martha Mason, Iris Wolfson, Dulcie Wink

Board Advisor: Barbara Brodsky

Staff: Trish Maley, Tana Dean

Regrets: None

Guests: None

- **Focused manifestation meditation w/3-5 minutes of silence after**

Aaron's Guidance:

My blessings and love. I am Aaron.

Barbara is a rocking boat, here; [it's] a little unstable to climb into her energetically. This is what I would say then. You are all presently in rocking boats. The initial movement in a rocking boat is to try when the boat tips this way to move that way, when the boat tips back this way, to move the opposite, to try to keep your balance. Can you instead keep your balance - (*chuckling*) we have a very comical cat here - can you instead keep your balance by holding still in the center of the boat? What Barbara said Haju asked her forty years ago, just sit still, be a still center. Hold love in your hearts. Hold your highest intention for the wellbeing of every sentient being on this planet and harm to none. And hold the commitment that you be a participant in that wellbeing, that you help to hold that space of love for all beings. And that when the boat pitches wildly, instead of grabbing the side rails in fear, just know, I am safe. If it throws me in the water, I'm a good swimmer. Whatever happens, I am here doing what I came to do and I hold a space of love.

And that is your work right now. The more of you there are holding that still center instead of running wildly from one side of the boat to the other, the more stable this boat that we call planet Earth will become. Hold it with love.

Know how many of us are here helping you. We're watching the boat, we're putting a little finger under the gunnel, if it starts to tip too far, [giving] a lift, helping in every way we can. But it is your boat, not my boat. You are the humans here and you came here to remember this innate balance, this center, still center of love.

I am Aaron. And I thank you all so much for the work you are doing here. It is deeply appreciated by your human companions, your plants and animals and also by Spirit throughout the multiverse. We love you. I am Aaron.

- **Vote required: None**

A. Monthly Reports

- a. Standing items

- i. Administrative – Tana
 - See report
 - Development of courses on demand on hold until summer due to staff time constraints
- ii. Communications / Fundraising – Trish
 - Tabled to next meeting; end of year 2025 numbers to be presented at next meeting
- iii. Finance – Rebecca
 - Financial picture remains largely the same; consistent small deficits overall
 - Fall retreat 2025 analysis: fewer participants attended than planned leading to loss
 - Fall retreat 2026 planning continuing: costs set; will not be reserving all rooms (n=48) to mitigate risks; will need min of 20 retreatants
 - Barbara to connect with Maryville to confirm exclusive use of meditation hall for 2026
 - Draft 2026 budget created for grant submissions
 - Monthly budget to be refined by finance committee
 - Finance committee suggested: potential members: Rebecca, David T., Dave G., Trish and Tana
 - Will need Board agreement once purpose, scope and other details established
 - Board needs to review grant funding priorities for 2026
- iv. Volunteer – Terri
 - Thank you gift and card sent to Karen for transcription work; Karen declined gift so Terri to return reimbursement to center
 - Email to go out soon to recruit more Zoom volunteers
- v. Archive / Technical – Isabelle
 - Drafted process for transcript review; two volunteers to test then email to be sent out to list to recruit more volunteers
- vi. Outreach - Karl
 - See below Section B
- vii. Grant Team - Pat / Rebecca
 - Grant team presentation - Board approved proposal for Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Grant Opportunity Brief
 - Another grant volunteer would be helpful; Rebecca to draft email message for Tana to send out

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	<p>03/22/25 – work in progress</p> <p>09/27/25 - Terri to get update from Tavis</p> <p>10/25/25 - Terri spoke to Tavis. Tavis and Rob have all the files from Henry. Some issues remain due to MFA and cover image files; Tavis and Rob to sort out. 47 stories of Jesus now available in paperback on Amazon.</p> <p>12/05/26 - Aiming to</p>

			<p>have all books on Amazon by July 1, 2026</p> <p>02/28/26 - Barbara to work with Rob to review edits</p>
06/21/25	Tana started planning new live program at Crazy Wisdom with Barbara and Colette; conversation between Aaron and Yeshua		<p>09/27/25 - good session and turnout</p> <p>Plan to hold these events every 6 months</p> <p>10/25/25 - Next event scheduled for March 2026</p>

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

Date Initiated	Item Description	Who + Next action	Resolution
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 mita - Class discussion groups (Tuesday class + EwA) on off-weeks - only for registered students - Welcoming committee 	<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>06/21/25 - Pat to connect with Iris and Bill to finalize logistics for first group</p> <p>Bill and Barbara to facilitate discussion group in fall to determine specific interests in Anna's</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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>teachings to create a class for January</p> <p>09/27/25 - tabled for this month</p> <p>12/05/25 - Board decided to create community committee.</p> <p>Barbara to write letter in the new year to recruit volunteers</p> <p>02/28/26 - Priority item to build community</p> <p>Ideas: individual welcoming emails to newcomers; regular Q&A sessions with Barbara;</p> <p>Board to continue conversation next meeting;</p> <p>Tana and Barbara to trial single Q&A session, Pat to host Zoom for session</p>
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12/06/24	Recurring Sangha meeting(s) – Discussed April and September	Tana/Trish to schedule email announcement for sangha meeting Barbara to remind class members September meeting still TBD	(April meeting occurred) 09/27/25 - September sangha meeting cancelled due to resignations on Board 01/17/26 - item tabled
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New Business - GENERAL

Date Initiated	Item Description	Who + Next action	Resolution
01/17/26	Board Member official duties description proposal: The required responsibilities really are to simply hold space, provide input and attend Board meetings and answer the occasional email. Other than that, all responsibilities are what people choose to volunteer to do, as much or as little as they are able.		01/17/26 - tabled 02/28/26 - Board agreed this is good to gather in one place; Tana to scan old spiral Board book, and add to Board Google Drive, along with description proposal, want to add in lack of donation requirement from Board members
12/05/26	E-books “Collections”	Barbara to talk to Janice	01/17/26 - tabled

12/05/26	In-person workshops	Tana to inquire about cost for logistics by Interfaith	01/17/26 - Tana to consult with Rebecca to determine feasibility 02/28/26 - Teachers do not have capacity currently; tabled until further notice
12/05/26	Increasing focus on DSC being a Light Center		01/17/26 - Board to reflect on how to have more formally-stated intention for DSC for 2026 02/28/26 - item tabled
02/28/26	DSC Financials Access by Grant Team; Finance Committee stood up		02/28/26 - Item resolved

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

- a. March 21, 2026 at 10 AM
- b. April 11, 2026 at 10 AM
- c. Next meetings to be set at April meeting