

**ZCO Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 7, 2006**

**Attendance:**

Ed Welsh, Larry Fuho Trussell, Nancy Kodo Conover, Daitetsu Hull, Patrick Green,  
Anne Pechovnik, Chuck Ensoku Gleason, Kojun Hull, Alex Rudinsky, Hogen Bays,  
Chozen Bays, Greg Hill.

**Location:**

Portland Dharma Center  
Portland, Oregon

**Agenda as follows:**

- I.** President's Report
- II.** Directors' Reports
- III.** Financial Report
- IV.** Membership Report
- V.** Communication Report
- VI.** Buildings and Grounds
- VII.** Sangha Harmony Committee
- VIII.** New Business
  - ZCO Ten Year Vision

**Summary of Motions**

Review minutes of Feb 26. Motion moved and approved.

Motion to contribute \$1000 to Dharma Rain Zen Center. Motion passed.

Motion made to have Chuck, Fuho and Kojun and Ed comprise the Executive Committee. Motion passed.

**Meeting Minutes**

**I. President's Report:**

**Ed:** Since our visioning retreat I've been thinking a lot about Ken Wilbur's translational vs. transformational. Feels like we're at the edge about to make a leap. We need to keep largest perspective we can.

End of President's Report

**II. Directors reports:**

**Fuho:** Personally very busy home and work. Grateful to come here.

**Kodo:** We did a ceremony for change of head of zendo. Kokyo stepped down and I stepped up. We had a big crowd and every cushion was taken. There's a whole new

group of folks taking training positions. People volunteering are volunteering to revitalize potlucks. Four people received the lay precepts. People are talking about jukai.

**Ensoku:** no report.

**Kojun:** We're hearing desire for more education in Buddhist basics. Sangha of 1000 Jizos is steadily getting people. A half dozen so far this year.

**Alex:** I was at a weekend retreat at GVZM. Great Vow is a jewel. It's a wonderful resource.

**Chozen:** Hogen and I just returned from the annual meeting of the White Plum Sangha in Boulder CO. It was a very convivial meeting. Other than Great Vow and Daido Looi in NY, there are no other residential monasteries. We need this place for people to dip into practice or place to go deep and train the next generation of Zen teachers. We have a special mission because there are so few places in North America for this kind of training.

End of Director's Reports

### **III. Financial:**

**Ensoku:** We are doing amazingly well on all aspects of income. Expenses are under control. Only expense outside of normal was purchase of car.

General discussion about the need to contribute to Dharma Rain for purchase of chairs. It's been a long time since we've donated to them.

Motion to contribute \$1000 to Dharma Rain Zen Center. Motion passed.

End of Financial Report

### **IV. Membership:**

**Alex:** One new member. Working on multiple-sangha babysitting where people could watch each other's kids while parents go practice.

Discussion of ZCO discount of \$10 off per couple. Individual membership is \$35 month, sliding scale, or volunteer component arranged with Alex.

End of Membership Report

### **V. Communications**

**Daitetsu:** The new ZCO website is completed. Hoping new Great Vow site up by July. ZCO pays web designer half fee now. Second half paid by Great Vow when completed.

End of Communications Report

## **VI. Buildings and Grounds**

**Hogen:** We are moving on the heated floor in August. Carl Stromquist will go over plans to double check them. We will have a vertical bamboo floor, inches thick that will last generations. Ten thousand dollars was donated to repair the roof. We will start with the zendo roof. We have an acre of roof total that repairing as leaks arise. Hogen talked about other repairs likely to be made. There is money to fund necessary repairs. Ryushin has redone office. Library is being organized by Daishin and Jogen.

Chozen and Hogen have started paying for dharma trips out of reserves because money is tight.

We need to upgrade communications and outreach finding new and creative ways for people to hear about us. DT and Jogen will take Dreamweaver classes to maintain our presence on the web. Mp3's will be available for down load on web.

Too much of Hogen's time is spent on computer repair. We need someone else to do this.

Thirteen current residents. Two more coming for summer.

End of Buildings and Grounds Report

## **VII. Sangha Harmony Committee**

**Daitetsu:** The key issues at the recent Harmony Tea -- Attendees expressed wish for our own space because for most, ZCO exists for them on Thursdays and Sundays. They expressed wish for our own space for Portland.

Members desired a ZCO organizational chart for new comers to show how things work. [Kip and Larry volunteered to do chart] It could be put up and taken down. Teas schedule is May 21, June 18, July 23.

David Jiten Wilson is moving and Abby Mushin Terris has other time commitments so we will have two vacancies to fill. It would be good if we keep the gender diversity.

End of Sangha Harmony Committee Report

## **VIII. New Business**

- Executive Committee

**Ed:** We need and Executive Committee to make efficient decisions outside of board meetings.

Motion made to have Chuck, Fuho and Kojun and Ed comprise the Executive Committee. Motion passed.

**Ed:** Let's invite past President Hotei into the process because he knows ZCO history.

- ZCO Ten Year Vision

**Ed:** Our task is to move a process to create our vision. Right now we need to share and gathering ideas. We came up with main themes and we need to select point people from the Board to do lead the Sangha discussion and visioning on these themes. Board members are encouraged to find others in the Sangha to help.

*Neighborhood Zen* – Greg will be point person. Greg wants to talk to Steve Karikeshian to maybe help.

*Strong Training Paths for Lay and Ordained* – Chozen, Hogen, the Sangha council – Fuho volunteered as the point person for the Board.

*Financial stability, Governance, and ZCO Structure* – Ed volunteered as point person. Ideas for others to work on this – Craig from *what is enlightenment?* Hogen, Chuck. May add fundraising component to this topic.

*Public Service* –Kodo volunteered as point person.

Kodo: We need people to be able to give talks on this topic and figure out are we responding to need. Will talk to Nan about helping.

**Ed:** we will regularly revisit the visioning process as an agenda item at future board meetings and I'll check in with point people along the way.

- Thoughts About Retreats

**Chozen:** There are so few monasteries in the US. One of the valuable things is that with Great Vow anybody can dip in. We're always getting new people. And young people are attracted to GVZM. Daishin shared some ideas with me about how we do weekend workshops where and when. People go to GVZM retreats for rest and renewal. If we want more people to come we may consider studies on sutras and more scholarly topics in Portland or maybe could use other places, like Kosala's studio. We need to think about what topic fits the venue.

Another idea we're talking about is maybe Hogen could stay over night or even 2-3 days in Portland which would add more presence. And the drive back and forth with late nights is hard on him.

End of New Business

**Adjourn**

Minutes taken by Patrick Green, Secretary.