

Gakyil Meeting

September 29, 2026

Present: (online) gakyil members Gerard Miller, Katya Kuzmitskaya, Ellen Halbert; community members Dominik Niceva, Cindy Thiebeau, Bodhi Krause, Vern Harrington

Guru Yoga

Agenda:

1) **Yellow report:** Contractor's fall work agreement has been signed and is in effect through November. His July and August invoices were received in September and in future we'd like them monthly. Gerard reduced 2026 insurance cost by \$10,000 since Vajra Hall was overinsured, and will soon examine our 2027 policy for possible reductions. Vern's offer to help with this was welcomed. Income from Tsegyalgar House at Dzamlinggar is lower since management was changed to Dzamlinggar gakyil. This will be explored to discover possible remedies.

2) Financial balances: Bank of America

- Business Adv Fundamentals – 1697: **\$40,563.94**
- Business Adv Fundamentals – 5490: **\$3,199.25**
- Business Advantage Savings – 1710: **\$2,073.53**
- Business Advantage Savings – 2138: **\$8,574.97**

Bank of America Total: \$54,411.69

Greenfield / Northampton Cooperative Bank

- Basic Business Checking – 2827: **\$286.31**
- Vajra Hall – 6900: **\$4,236.19**
- Locally Grown Money Market – 6893: **\$80,091.14**
- Khandroling – 6918: **\$1,609.46**

Co-op Bank Total: \$86,223.10

PayPal

- DCA Main Account: **\$1,465.15**
- Dzamling Gar Account: **\$2,194.26**

PayPal Total: \$3,659.41

Total Available Financial Balances: \$144,294.20

3) Membership report: negotiation with IDC to have our 15% dues paid in dollars rather than euros was successful. We will pay IDC bill to SSI-US for Mirror in dollars, saving about \$2000 in exchange rate, however we will have to pay in euros for final quarter of 2025. We pay 15% on full membership fee even for members who pay reduced fee and even for dues reduced by PayPal fees. Dominik proposed calculating 15% based on our actual income in future. In 2026 We have **216 members** and have collected **\$57,789.77** We owe IDC for 2025: **€3,369.44** or in \$3,820.49 + FX/wire). Dominik will wire the 2025 dues upon approval from treasurer: \$3,820.49 (€3,369.44) Due for 2026: \$2,236.82 we'll wire this by year end. **2026 Tsegyalgar East, YTD**

- Ordinary: **194 members | \$44,153.41**
- Global Sustaining: **20 members | \$10,761.36**
- Global Meritorious: **2 members | \$2,875.00**
- Other categories: **\$0**

Total shown by membership category report: 216 members | \$57,789.77

Compared with 2025:

- 2025: **232 members | \$67,068.51**
- Change: **-16 members**
- Revenue change: **-\$9,278.74**, about **-13.8%**

Kundrolling

2026:

- **6 members**
- **\$1,495.01**

2025:

- **13 members**
- **\$3,380.06**

Change:

- **-7 members**
- **-\$1,885.05**

Quarterly Membership Collections

2026 YTD

- Q1: \$30,742.95
- Q2: \$12,674.48
- Q3: \$7,145.09
- Q4: \$0.00 to date

2026 YTD total: \$50,562.52

For comparison:

- **2025 full year: \$62,062.14**
- **2024 full year: \$66,912.40**

2025 IDC Gar/Ling Report

The separate IDC report shows:

- Tsegyalgar East Direct Total: **€55,025.59 / \$62,374.14**
- Kundrolling/Lings Total: **€2,752.46 / \$3,120.04**
- Grand Total: **€57,778.05**
- 15% shown as due to IDC: **€8,666.71**

IDC Contribution

2025

- Tsegyalgar East Direct Total: **\$62,374.14**
- Kundrolling / Lings: **\$3,120.04**
- **Total membership income: \$65,494.18**
- **15% IDC contribution in USD: \$9,824.13**
- IDC system calculation: **€8,666.71. (DUE €3,369.44 / or in \$3,820.49 + FX/wire)**

2026 YTD

- Membership collections through Q3: **\$50,562.52**
- 15% of collections: **\$7,584.38**
- **Paid to IDC so far in 2026: \$4,500.00. (dues \$2,236.82)**

- **Provisional balance remaining:\$3,084.38**

The 2026 balance is **provisional**, because the different IDC reports are showing slightly different membership-income totals and still need reconciliation.

- 4) **Proposed payment platform change:** It was suggested that we change from using PayPal for membership (and other payments) to using Stripe and manual bank payments. Stripe offers lower fees, more payment options including bank transfers and checks, and better tracking capabilities. The transition will be implemented before November, with Stripe as the primary system with traditional bank transfers as additional option (if Stripe setup is not completed in time). **A vote of gakyil members was unanimous in favor of this change.** As approved, Dominik will disconnect PayPal payment option for 2027 and leave a message directing members to pay by check or bank transfer until new Stripe system is in place (By November 1).
- 5) **Blue report:** Zoom hosting for Chod retreat will be provided by one or more volunteers. Ellen will confirm tech support coverage and will introduce and welcome Enzo at the first session. • For Steve Landsberg retreat in November Steve will stay at Rinpoche's house, and Cindy will transport him. Vern offered to host Steve for one dinner; Ellen will ask local sangha to host him for one dinner, and for lunches. Dominik will provide tech support in the gonpa. • For Umdze training with Sebastien in December Katya proposed a suggested donation of \$75 for full retreat or \$40 for one day. This was approved by yellow. • Katya created a spreadsheet including information for all upcoming programs. It was suggested that retreats with Yeshe be added to prevent schedule conflicts.
- 6) **Red report:** First aid kits were collected and inventoried by a karma yogi. Four kits are nearly complete with a couple items missing. We need ten kits total, so some new kits must be purchased. Cindy will inventory 3 kits in garage at Rinpoche's house. • Karma yogi also backed up all office computers and we discarded a nonfunctional one. Several laptops that are functional but not needed will be offered for donation. Organization of the office will continue this fall. • Back deck and front porch floor of Rinpoche's house need sanding and staining. One estimate of around \$1000 was received from Dion but no others responded. Team decided to proceed with Dion. Jeremy will repair deck railing and porch roof in October. • Hamel Plowing and Property Services will provide mowing at schoolhouse for \$80 biweekly and will plow this winter for \$100 per visit. • Contractor has already dismantled beaver dams 3 times under new work agreement; possible weekly rate of \$65 for beaver management should be considered if intense activity continues.

Dedication of Merit