* Attendees: Joe Zurylo, John Foster, Vern Harrington, Andrea Lawrence, Kathy McGrane, Bret Bourman, Robyn Kinsey, John LaFrance, Jacqueline Gens, Bob Kragen, Tashi Kaiser, Harold Graves
* John Foster Moderator
* Dec 18 Minutes Approved

**Staff Updates (3 minutes)**

* Harold: Membership Breakdown; we continue to get new memberships throughout the year.
  + Can we send out information via TsegNet to encorage more people to renew. Update about the newsletter and other news on TsegNet **(Blue Action)**
* Andrea: Update on Mice: they’re gone.
  + Dorm space requirements: 6 confirmed. Where do we send people to stay for the Reteat?
  + Accommodations list to be updated by Marylin in next 2 days. Block Rates from Red Roof a possibility?
  + Discussion of various hotels in Buckland/Conway areas. No camping on Khandroling; No room in the dorm.
  + Transportation: Will there be a shuttle service? Yes. Clarification in next 2 weeks.
  + Handicapped individuals will have to stay at hotels.
  + Karma Yoga: KY forms are on the web to fill out and turn in.
  + Water Testing: Not needed.
  + Computer system needed for the Gonpa. Check with Fabio Dallorto Feb 3-7 is next webcast.
  + Vacuum Cleaners: neither of them works. **ACTION:** Explore on Craig’s List high-end vacuums; have the old ones repaired at Hadley.
  + New Hot Water Urn is needed: **DECISION:** OK to buy new one
* Update from Bret:
  + Staying in Naomi’s room; can he continue to reside in the schoolhouse? Describes the extent of work he is doing for SSI. Back room of the dorm is a possibility; basement is another. Directors of Shang Shung: Paola Z is President, Anna, Matt, Asruh. Bret is reconciling the SSI banking statements: (months of backlog) DCA would like to collaborate more closely with SSI.
  + SSI classes in progress. Bret does not yet write checks for SSI. Ed is the signatory to the SSI account as acitive treasurere for SSI.
  + **DECISION:** Gakyil agrees to allow Bret to move in to back room of dorm.
* [SMS: Lori Leff to be the point person to coordinate with Jim about SMS Exams, retreats.]

# Whole Gakyil (minutes)

1. Retreat Updates:
   1. Venue Update: news by end of the week
      1. Registration Page: need to get fee structure for the retreat.
   2. Ad for Shambhala Sun went out;
   3. Postering Service Discussion:
      1. $30 per town to poster venues for the retreat. March, April & May continuous postering for retreat. $100 per month approx for postering.
      2. **Blue Action:** Present Poster Budget to Yellow along with Estimate from Al for the posters. Al was paid for the membership letters.
   4. Someone to stay at Lower Khandroling: **Action:** Red to follow up on cost of camper rental for lower Khandroling.
   5. Organizational obligations to other retreat venues:
      1. Tashi reports on Kundrolling’s organization, their expectations. Kundrolling is on schedule with their retreat.
   6. Estimates to be made and sent to K-ling for postering, flyers, etc.

# Whole Gakyil (minutes cont’d)

1. Shang Shung Financial Report to the Gakyil by Bret
   1. Discussion about Bret’s role; Paola working hard to pull resources together for SSI. [see above discussion with Bret]
   2. Bookstore update for retreats
   3. Anna has taken on responsibilities for ordering February books. Ordering will get done, bookstore will be on site at the retreat.
   4. Ordering scheduled
2. Plans for Losar: Feb 22
   1. Prayer flags: cost of them is being investigated. Al D. to investigate possibilities for printing the flags. Phuntsog said it would be fine to have them printed. 10 or 20 sets of 5 flags are presently in stock.
   2. Rinpoche’s House; Schoolhouse; Khandroling; Bret to connect with Marit Cranmer about flags.

**Blue Gakyil (minutes)**

1. Report on Blue Teams
   1. John Shannon: announcements. Marit in charge of Shrine; Leila in charge of attendant schedule;
   2. No Coordinator yet: Stephanie Scott is suggested as a good coordinator. Harold to create PDF of Blue Retreat Breakdown and send out. Various members suggested and discussed for position of Retreat Coordinator.
   3. Stephanie Scott, Will Shea, are suggested. Will not available to help with coordinator.
   4. We have to find a retreat coordinator who can work with the Gakyil Harmoniously. They should understand how the current Gakyil operates and work in collaboration with the 3 colors.
2. [Kunye Massage Tents Suggested for Retreats]
3. Newsletter Editor. **TABLED**
4. Protocol for establishing Gakyils and Lings. This has to come from Naomi. **TABLED**

# Red Gakyil (minutes)

1. Discussion about clear-cutting.
   1. Map will be sent to ChNNR. Preferecence to wait until AFTER the summer retreat for clear-cut. Awaiting Rinpoche’s response and show him on the land.
   2. If we get the grant we can turn down.
2. Septic system—still waiting from Glen $1,500 survey for land across the road. We agree to do the septic survey to get going with the design **DECISION**
3. Lori Leff for Blue—yellow exploring another gakyil member
4. Sound proofing Geko’s room. Ben can do it. Resiliant channel in place of stud method.
5. Farm house—follow up on farmhouse deck. Tom’s been paid $2,400 already
6. Khandroling Summer
   1. 12 Karma Khandroling and 24 campsites
   2. Outside showers and portapotties.
   3. Summer Encampment—Read ChNNR approval, need to have yellow meeting with red about their budget, Set up a separate call. Maybe Vajra hall can pay for food costs.

**Yellow Gakyil (minutes)**

1. Some items to discuss—anonymous donation of $56,000 to Vajra Hall, remainder to go to Teacher’s Fund.
2. **Decision:** Secretary compensation increased to 30 hours
3. **Question proposed:** Can we get an equity loan to move ahead and fix the leach field. Fix it now rather than wait until after the retreat.