* Attendees: Joe Zurylo, Ed Hayes, David Hayes, John Foster, Al Daggett, John LaFrance, Elisa Gonzalez, Vern Harrington, Kathy McGrane, Tom Burton, Harold Graves

***Guru Yoga, Song of the Vajra***

* David Hayes appointed Moderator
* February 3, 2013 Minutes Approved
* Next Gakyil meeting April 14, 2013, Sunday, 12:30 PM

**Staff Updates (3 minutes)**

* Secretary:
  + Membership Breakdown Given:
    - Total Membership as of March 6, 2013 is 221, compared with 250 for March 2012:



* Geko:
  + Schoolhouse maintenance discussion; brief overview of recent roofing work, Steeplejack’s quote for working on the back roof seems high. Rear exit door may need some reworking: does not open easily enough, and there is a 2 or 3 inch gap in the masonry outside the threshold. Some concerns about security is expressed, noting some recent break-ins around the neighborhood in Conway.
  + Discussion about camping: Jeremy Keaton. **APPROVE** offering J. Keaton $10 / night camping.

**Whole Gakyil (minutes)**

1. Retreat Coordinator’s Report:
   1. Planning for the Retreat is progressing.
   2. 2 Work Study candidates have already applied.
   3. Food Service
      1. It is suggested that we choose 2 different food vendors and alternate them every other day
      2. Al & John Foster **To FOLLOW UP** with a proposal to show the Gakyil regarding food service
      3. Baker’s Oven in Shelburne Falls should be strongly considered
      4. For example, the cost of Sandwich, Salad, Chips & Soda would be about $8 to $10
         1. Good idea to give business to Shelburne Falls, strengthening DCA’s relationship with SF.
      5. Coffee & Tea in the mornings? Two possibilities: work with a Local Coffee Shop, or else let a member of the community handle it. Pages in Conway contacted about catering, no apparent interest.
2. Khandroling Afternoon Activities
   1. Vajra Dance Courses to be scheduled on the land
   2. Fabio Andrico to teach beginners YY; Naomi to teach Breathing
   3. Tibetan Dances discussion. Rinpoche takes the Tibetan dancing quite seriously, it is important to Him.
      1. Proposed: Tibetan Dance Session to be held one weekend nite, maybe 6PM?
      2. Events Scheduling Discussion with various suggestions.
         1. For example, a Ganapuja @ 4PM Saturday, followed by the Auction?
         2. Scheduling **To Be FOLLOWED UP** later.
3. Transportation Discussion
   1. 2 Buses, 2 Shuttles from Schoolhouse to the Land and back.
   2. Probably there will be Yoga at the Schoolhouse and Dance on the Land.

# Blue Gakyil (minutes)

1. Teaching Retreats after June: After ChNN Retreat, Elio will be here in August.
   1. Teacher’s Travel Tickets discussion; Yellow to **FOLLOW UP**
2. Publicity update
   1. Encampment posters: Yellow to **FOLLOW UP**, they will be printed sometime later this week.
3. Vajra Dance Costumes
   1. Cost includes €10 donation to DCA & SSI
4. Webex Account
   1. Gakyil **APPROVES** upgrade to WebEx Professional
5. Khyentse DVD
   1. When do we view it? It consists of Four 3-hour parts, for a total of approximately 12 hours.
      1. **To Be** **FOLLOWED UP** via email
   2. Brief discussion of Khyentse’s Presentation at Merigar
6. “Tsegyalgar 30” 30th Anniversary Events in Shelburne Falls, Discussion
   1. Dance Competitions between Gars. Tsegyalgar and Namgyalgar to have a “Dance Off” in 2014.
   2. Blue to **FOLLOW UP** with more info about “2014 TsegEast 30”.
7. Welcoming Rinpoche Discussion
   1. Circle Dance in the Driveway of the Farmhouse. Matt & Leelah to organize.
8. Postering Discussion. DCA can poster the area ourselves if we have only a few color posters to put up.

# Red Gakyil (minutes)

1. Reforestation
   1. **PENDING** Proposal: Scott Chafee (sp?) Logging had the best deal for the Clear Cutting. Burning the remaining brush piles will be up to DCA.
   2. Nary and Ruben to do the burning
   3. $5,000 would need to be paid up front
   4. No Transaction until we have a written proposal
2. The Big Picture: The sustainability of the Community is discussed
   1. Costs are increasing, income apparently is not. DCA does not seem to have the money to continue
      1. Joe discusses possible scenarios:
         1. SSI takes the Schoolhouse and DCA moves to Khandroling, with SSI paying rent to DCA
      2. Kathy suggests SSI buys the Schoolhouse and DCA moves to Khandroling.
      3. John Foster: The Schoolhouse is both a liability and an asset at the same time.
      4. The Farmhouse, Vajra Hall, New Roadway, Perk Tests, all these are moving towards DCA moving to Khandroling eventually.
   2. Would SSI have the Capacity to maintain the Schoolhouse?
      1. General Agreement that for the Long Term, DCA needs to establish a plan for eventually moving out of the Schoolhouse and onto the Land. *But SSI must be part of the discussion*. [Phuntsog likes the Schoolhouse, Rinpoche’s presence here is very important, and she wants Shang Shung to be here.]
   3. DCA Gakyil wants to have a **FOLLOW UP** meeting on this topic after the Retreat in June.
      1. It is noted that the Previous Gakyil wanted to sell the Schoolhouse for a reason.
   4. SSI’s leadership issues need to be resolved before DCA can have a meaningful conversation with them. Numerous attempts by DCA to have meetings with SSI have failed in the past, etc.
3. Mandala Monument Project Discussion
   1. Stone costs about $750
   2. Mosaic Work: about $150
   3. Discussion about Monument Design Proposals.

# Red Gakyil (minutes continued)

1. Neighbors
   1. Waiver of Liability for Field Next Door. Penny wants to walk the property line with us. Kathy is the new owner of the Lot near Maple & Pleasant Street.
      1. Waivers have been applied for

# Yellow Gakyil (minutes)

1. Schoolhouse Maintenance Budget
   1. Yellow to work on spending guidelines for Geko’s maintenance expenditures
   2. Toilets Discussion; the new toilets have been purchased and need to be installed; Geko to **FOLLOW UP** with Bret and/or Nary for installation.
2. Hardship Issues Discussion
   1. Yellow **APPROVES** allowing hardship discounts for Gakyil Members
3. Gift-giving guidelines
   1. $150 limit on gift giving per gift.
   2. **DECISION:** John F., Vern & Tom to be the Gift Giving Committee.
4. Fundraising Plan for Khandroling Improvements
   1. Discussion of a list of improvements for Upper Khandroling in order to raise matching funds from the International Community.
      1. For Example, possible improvement projects might include: Repairing the Roof on Rinpoche’s Cabin, the New Road, and Drilling for a Well.
5. Discussion about non-rent paying tenants in the Schoolhouse
   1. Recent History of Guest User Agreements and why they were created is recapped; general discussion about people living in the Gar with some reference to The Five Points of Merigar. A clear policy about short and long-term residence in the Schoolhouse needs to be established. **Yellow to FOLLOW UP** with further discussion and action on the matter.
6. Khandroling Insurance Discussion: cost is going to go up. Brief recap of the Travelers insurance policy having been non-renewed for rest of 2013; will be obtaining new insurance policy soon, it will likely be more expensive. The fact that DCA has never filed a claim should be in our favor for obtaining competitive insurance rates.
   1. Some further discussion of Schoolhouse Maintenance Budget.
7. Discussion of Signage for the Khandroling Clear Cut.