*Guru Yoga*

* Appoint a Moderator: Dominik Niceva
* Schedule Next Meeting: August 14 Gakyil Meeting, August 28 Community Meeting ,
* Approve Gakyil Meeting Minutes Previous: I will send out all the Minutes from January through June.
* In Attendance: Matt Hayat, Cindy Thibeau, Amanda Pollock, Dominik Niceva, Diane Kramer, and Tim Fisher. Guest Speakers: Ed Methany and John Foster.

**Secretary:**

* Membership Report: We are doing better than expected with Membership retention in a year without Rinpoche.

ACTION ITEM: Yellow will find spreadsheet on retention of new members and send it to Blue

**GEKO:**

* Cindy reads Jeremy’s email. Nary and Jeremy are working hard. Sarale, Bodhi, Martin and Jim Smith also helped with this. There are 7 people staying on Khandroling. 10people are camping for Celebration and 24 people in Cabins. We are at full capacity. He wants to get a dumpster on Monday and then use the Karma Yoga slots for the celebration to clean up the Roof mess. Dumpster is approved by Yellow. The barn topic: it’s not safe. Maybe we get a structural engineer to check it out. It is something we need to think about. If it were to collapse and fall into the road then we would be responsible. Let’s talk to Joe.

ACTION ITEM: Discuss with Joe Zurylo and Jim Smith about the status of the Barn.

WHOLE GAKYIL

* Lauri’s Letter: We are hearing the letter and are scheduling a Community Meeting to discuss these things. Diane proposes Quarterly Community meetings.
* Al Dagget’s Request: We have scheduled a Meeting that is a little over a month so that Diane can attend in person.
* Dominik is going to make posters near silent auction table: one for Dzamlinggar and one for Retreat Cabins.
* Karen emailed Enrico and requested a meeting and Enrico has not replied. She will follow up with him again tomorrow.
* DzamlingGar House: loan, we have opted to pay back our loan using the rent from people using the house. This will allow us to pay back over time and not bankrupt us. Potentially, within a few years we will have paid off the loan and will be getting income from that. The biggest issue with furnishings was the kitchen, but that is now taken care of. We need to finish the furnishings after that. Apartment 3 is reserved for TW and apartments 1 and 2 are one dorm for now and hold 7 beds. Apartment 4 is a private apartment, its 50 euros a night, apartment 5 is a double, two bedrooms, whole upstairs, semi-private and we charge per bedroom and we charge 35 euros each for those apartments.
* Amanda: I know it is excruciating for you all when I send out these emails. I send these out because I see emails from Gakyil answering questions and telling me not to say anything. This is lying from omission to me. I have a problem with someone like Matt answering solo and this caused big concern. The people who talk to me think that there is no transparency on major decisions that we make. When we fail to have a meeting to address these things and we send out emails saying how we will respond, I feel like we have moved into a place where we are not transparent. We didn’t include any of the facts that we raised over 100k for this. We are here to facilitate and help the Community, we are not here to act like these voices don’t matter. When I press send I am at a loss, trying to figure out how to stop us from doing these things that cause suffering for people. In my heart, I am wondering what you guys are doing and why. It’s hard for me to operate in a Gakyil that operates in a way that is not helpful to its Community. I am doing what I think is right and I would like to see us change. I would like to include real input from the Community. There are two sides on Yellow, Diane thinks we can do it, Dominik doesn’t. We need to bring these topics to the community. The way I see it is you vote over people and go ahead and do what you feel is right without the group having input.
* John Foster: Efrem offered $25,000 for the road, John Lafrance offered $500 on the road. You guys have Joe’s proposals and estimates there, correct? Any questions about it? No. Efrem will pay $25,000 for asphalting if we come up with the $4,000-$5,000. Thayer St will donate some money. All of this funding for the road paving will be handled by the Community. This will save us deterioration problems. The road from the pond to the bathhouse will allow for emergency vehicles to get to the Mandala. Yellow and Red Gakyils approve this.
* Amanda: Scott Townell can host some Strategic Planning Training, Meg Wheatley, can also come in for Training to help us Collaborate. Diane will contact Meg

ACTION ITEM: Diane will contact Meg about Collaboration Workshops.

* Meg lives on the West Coast. We will have to pay for her flight. Does anyone know anyone else who can do this? Maybe someone more local to our community. We can also work with the Collaboration workshops that they do over in Tenerife at the IDC. I think for the Gakyil sake it would be important for us to have access to this information. Bringing someone from Europe is expensive but maybe we can get written documents from Dzamnlinggar. Diane will contact Scott about this.
* Fundraising Training: Al, Mark Allston Fonsbee, and another are on friends of yellow. But we need professional for the Training but those people can help.

Action Item Red and Geko are still working on the maintenance plan

* Goals of Each Color for the Year and how much they will need spend: We need to red, come September, the budget for the year. Amanda: as we already spoke about in the last meeting, Joe is tracking it in his software program but it takes about 40hours to download all the info. We will have a great tool once this is complete to identify of Costs and Expenses. We are fortunate that he is allowing us to use this program. Jeremy also has a good expense list based on Dominiks

ACTION ITEM: Tim will order final bits of Water Safety tomorrow Monday.

* We need to discuss with SSI about their unwillingness to give us information about people who attended the open house for Transmission
* Ed Methaney is here: Matt asked him to participate and give the latest on the Community Proposal for the Preservation Act stands (Schoolhouse Roof Grant). It seems like a very good opportunity to me, the funds have been sitting and waiting and haven’t been used, it seems like we will be successful as long as several things are met. We need to meet the comfort level of the Town Administrators. We need to make sure that the estimates, financial info we present, and the specific nature of how we would do the repairs and making them consistent with historical nature of the building, making sure that public nature of the access to the community is kept and making sure the app as a whole is cohesive. The sort of things that have made them look less than favorably on this in the past. I am working with Caroline and Amanda to get the specific of information will be sufficient to get this grant. The church is similar situation to us, they had to find a comfort level with the town in order to seek these publics funds. Because of the nature of the events that we have occurring at the Schoolhouse, we can address this by emphasizing the cultural heritage nature of our activities there and I think it’s also important to talk about the benefits to the community in terms of people and money coming into the community through the activities in this building. I will need further info from SSI on the students who come here to take these programs and be specific when listing public events that we do have. Ill ne talking to Tom, the town administrator, I want to move ahead where the board is comfortable. Having said this I will address the SSSI board to see if there is anything else we can address.
* Matt asks Ed to talk about commitments that come with Funding. Are we stuck with the Schoolhouse or could we sell it once we fix it? Ed states that a similar grant was given to a local Church and there is a limit to sell it for 30 years. If we were to sell it the town of Conway has first right to purchase and they can name the price they want to buy it for.
* There are some restrictions with up keep of building: they want it to remain historical, we can’t seriously change the structure. There is a Deed restriction: if approved, there is concern about the religious nature of it so they include language saying that they would continue public activities there outside of the religious sect. We need to keep it open to public events in order to get this grant.
* We are different then church because of TSM. The Grant wants to hear about how we are to benefit the community. We have some letters from Conway natives who support this and we will need to write some more letters, maybe featuring Sarale’s future yoga that will be taking place. The more public activity we show the better off we will be to get this grant.
* If we receive the grant and in 3-5 years we must sell the schoolhouse, do we return the funds back to the city? No, we just have to sell the school to the town. Ed has never seen any grants be asked back from the guarantor.
* VOTE TO LET ED CONTINUE: Dominik, Diane, Amanda approve. Matt approves. ED GO FOR IT!
* Diane does not approve, or Amanda, to a one voice Gakyil. Diane is speaking: “For instance, I didn’t bring it up but when we went around asking what to do the Buckland Woods, I said very clearly that I was okay to lease the property and then we will have a 5 year plan in place. That was left out of Matt’s letter. I am fed up being peer pressured into certain positions that are not mine. But that is still my position. Susan can give us a 2 year lease and then we can figure out from the pledges if it’s a zero sum then there is no reason not to go ahead with it. If we can raise money to pay off the mortgage then we will see if we want to keep with it and move out of the Schoolhouse. In that case, SSI can take over the mortgage and will get it for $145,000 we are paying $1,350 each month, SSI would be paying $750 each month. This new mortgage would make it more affordable and changes the picture enough.” Diane thinks there’s a lot to discuss and in the meantime, offering the 2 year lease to the community seems like a viable option that will satisfy the community’s need for this space while simultaneously not cost us anything. I want this point of view shown to the community. Amanda agrees with Diane that SSI and Community must be involved.
* We should be listening to what the Community wants as far as Buckland Woods goes. We need to know that we will not always agree on everything and we need to be open to broader collaboration with everyone who wants to participate.
* Diane is proposing that we offer to lease from Susan, the property, if the amount that she is offering to us fits within the budget of the pledges and expected rentals. We should write a proposal to Susan and also bring a conversation to the table with the Community at large. Dominik asks if they’re finished. I think Amanda asked IDC.
* The Gakyil addresses the need for regular community meetings and agrees that 4 community meetings a year is plenty.
* We should do Guardian Practice the first and last day of the Summer Celebration. We will have one community meeting, one presentation from SSI, a Bodhi Presentation, and Marit’s Khandroling Presentation. 2/3 of the day are Guardian practices and the rest are discussions.

BLUE GAKYIL

Summer Celebration

* We’re good to go. $50/day for registration

ACTION ITEM: Matt can send out request for more Auction Items

RED

* We have been asked to send a Community Member (local area, not DCA community Member) to Merigar: Who do we send? Pam from Buckland Assessors office. Cindy will ask her if she’s interested.

YELLOW

* Financial Update: Diane sent it out. 96k in our account, we’ve been hovering around this amount for a couple of months. We have about $127,000 in our account right now.
* Dzamlinggar needs to be furnished, we have the itinerary. How many beds are we missing? 2.