



Tsegyalgar East Gakyil Meeting Minutes
via Videoconference
Tuesday, September 29, 2020 | 7:00pm (ET)

Moderator: Miranda Shannon

Meeting Minutes: Nancy Paris

In Attendance: David Hayes, Ed Matheny, Nancy Paris, Miranda Shannon, John Shannon, Martin Bobak, Dominik Niceva, Diana Sullivan, Michael Sullivan

Guru Yoga

- **General Discussion**

- Scheduling General Assembly meeting - Date will be likely scheduled in mid to late October dependent on bookkeeper progress.
- Call for new Gakyil candidates will start in early October. Election of the new Gakyil will occur in the first week of December 2020. Announcement will be sent out to membership in the next few days, and we are working on Zoom election logistics.
- Khandroling Land Conservation - we recommend that proposal be reviewed by the new Gakyil once elected, along with community input.
- Schoolhouse Gonpa use during fall/winter months - Gakyil has been researching how to open Gonpa safely this fall, and discussing the required steps to do so, in order to satisfy the needs of those members who wish to practice in small groups. The Gonpa is badly ventilated, and CDC states that the risk of being exposed to COVID 19 rises exponentially when gathering indoors. Remaining outdoors for as long as possible is recommended. Safer indoor gatherings require good ventilation - such as the use of an air filtration system along with the wearing of masks, social distancing, and limiting the use of shared items that are difficult to clean or disinfect such as soft porous materials (i.e. rugs/cushions). Gonpa rug would need to be rolled up, and the cushions and yoga mats would need to be stored. Keeping Gonpa windows open and the heat on would be a financially unsound solution.

Friends of Gakyil also discussed, during their meeting, purchasing an air purifier/filtration system for the Gonpa as a long term solution. They will submit a proposal.

- **Geko Report**

- Gonpa floor needs touchup should not take long to paint
- Ride on mower broke down - Geko is working on getting it fixed
- The trees by Rinpoche's cabin have been cleared to avoid their falling and hitting the ramp. The section of the ramp that needed repair is now being worked on
- *No Hunting* signs are being put up because the deer on Khandroling are not afraid of people
- The Geko hopes that rain helps with the water problem. The lower tank has not filled up at all during summer 2020. The Geko recommends that a larger water tank be purchased at some point, as well as researching and getting a solar powered well system. Had there been a summer retreat, there would have been no water. Solutions to the dire water problem need to be discussed this winter.
- The painting of the Guardian Cabin is almost done. There is still a small red and yellow area on the roof that needs to be scrapped and painted.
- One of the bath house sinks will need to be fixed in the spring
- There are bees nesting at Mandarava cabin, nests will be sprayed next spring.
- The schoolhouse building inspection is coming up. Due to COVID-19 regulations it may be more complicated. Changes may need to be considered if the School of Tibetan Medicine asks to have in-person intensives.
- The jackhammer work has begun to fix the drain issue outside the men's basement bathroom. It should not be too expensive to fix the pipe and elbow that now affects the shower drain and secondary washing machine.

- **Administrative Manager Report**

- PPP Loan Forgiveness update - Tsegyalgar East was an early PPP Loan Forgiveness applicant, and was approved for a little under \$4800. Originally an eight week program, it was expanded to 24 weeks. The bank should have a web portal in about a month, but there may be new legislation - that if passed - may only require simple certification that money was only used for payroll to forgive the loan.
- Bookkeeping update - bookkeeper is through with the second quarter and up to July or August. Bookkeeper's work needs to be verified to make sure it is correct.
- Desktop computer in the schoolhouse finally gave out. The Administrative Manager backed up the information onto hard drives and also transferred it to the laptop, which the bookkeeper is now using.
- FY2022 Recreational Land Classification for Khandroling (61A / 61B application) for favorable tax classification is due October 1st. The completed application will be emailed to the assessor's office and paper application will be mailed as required by the State Department of Revenue.
- Garage Work at the farmhouse is almost finished. Some of the work was karma yoga and some was paid for. Administrative manager needs to follow up on an invoice question. The garage will hold both farmhouse and Khandroling equipment, and will protect and store equipment during the winter months.

- **Blue Report**

- All Tsegyalgar East's programs continue to be online. Full online weekly schedules have been running since the start of the pandemic, as well as a variety of courses and practice retreats. There are two upcoming programs in October and November respectively: The Practice of Green Tara and Her Twenty-One Manifestations with Oliver Leick and Boundless Embrace: Explanation and Practice of Jnana Dakini Thugthug with Steven Landsberg. A few more programs are in the planning.
- Attendance at weekly classes and courses have been good. Distant members are feeling included, and are interested in keeping the online programs going after the pandemic.
- Tsegyalgar East has been providing translation into various languages through the Zoom Language Interpretation channels. This is an important tool as it facilitates participation on the part of the international community by making Tsegyalgar East online programming vastly more accessible.
- Website old content and code are being updated.

- **Yellow Report**

- Account Balances**

- Checking: \$34,091

- Reserve: \$60,297

- PayPal: \$3,946

- Dzamling Gar: \$258

- Khandroling: \$3,422

- Vajra Hall: \$4,227

- Yellow Gakyil will coordinate with the Administrative Manager on Rule 61B Application.
 - IDC share of membership payments - In the past, payments have been made by bank transfer. This time payment will be made through PayPal, which promises to be much simpler, but currently has technical issues on the bank side. People's United Bank said it will take up to 72 hours to correct these issues.
 - Yellow Gakyil will reach out to Kundrolling Yellow Gakyil regarding their IDC membership payments.
 - Planning an end of year fundraiser with the goal to finish the year in the Black, as this Gakyil has done in the past.

- Update from Friends of Gakyil meeting

- Friends of the Gakyil (FOG) group have many ideas, and they would like to schedule an informal meeting via Zoom. Items to be discussed are to start using the Khandroling cabins again for personal retreats - cabins are currently closed due to COVID 19

logistics. FOG would like to start by reopening Rinpoche's cabin, and proposed that retreatants would commit to cleaning the cabin before and after usage. FOG is also enthusiastic about purchasing an Air Purifier for the Schoolhouse Gonpa.

Dedication of Merits