



**TSEGYALGAR EAST GAKYIL MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY MARCH 7, 2021, 11AM - 12:30PM via Zoom**

Call to Order

Moderator: John LaFrance

Minutes Taker: Mark Alston Follansbee

Guru Yoga

The meeting was opened by asking that the minutes from our previous meeting be approved. There was a motion, a second, and the minutes were approved. Then thanks were given to the previous Gakyil for all their help and support during the transition and for the on-going work of our Treasurer, our Geko, our Secretary and the work on membership. We also thanked the New York Ling (Kundrolling) for inviting us to participate with them in a Communications Course that helped us all realize we need to and want to work more closely together.

Reports by Color

Red

Ongoing Archives Project:

Our Archivist explained some of the history of our archives and CNNR's wish as far back as the 1980s that each of the five Gars would have a complete collection of his teachings and works. They have been cataloging what we have and realize that Merigar has some of the recordings from TE that we don't have and that we have some that they don't have. They asked for the Gakyil's support to negotiate with Merigar and exchange materials.

Currently, we have no policy or procedures about who can access materials and we don't have a librarian. Written materials come in and out and sometimes do not come back. Currently, while still cataloging the digital materials, we are not lending them out.

We also need a system to destroy materials that are no longer being used or needed. Paper can be burned but digital materials need to be dealt with in an appropriate way that we don't have currently. There is also the need for back-up copies of everything in case the originals are destroyed.

Rinpoche's family has complete control over all of CNNR's materials and whatever is being done needs to be in agreement with them. There was a motion on the request that we try and negotiate with IDC Archives housed at Merigar West for missing materials. It was seconded and approved by all.

We then discussed an email received from Archives of the IDC (AIDC) regarding Rinpoche's work. The e-mail sent to all Gakyil's on January 21st, states:

"The current operational ability of the archive team only allows for a limited amount of requests, and therefore current requests can only come from Gar and Ling Gakyils. Please note that the archive of Teachings transmitted by Rinpoche is organized for study and research, and is not to be used for profit.

In the future, when the AIDC finalizes the process of organizing the archive and creates software to access it, individual practitioners will also have the opportunity to ask for these materials."

Geko Report:

The Gonpa furnace is not in yet and he'll let us know when it's being installed. He has been working on the road and parking lot at the schoolhouse, patching them, and digging out the basement.

There was a down tree on the land blocking the road that he cut up. A bracket holding the chimney at Rinpoche's cabin got loose and looks damaged, needs repair.

Red Projects:

Red reported they are getting new quotes on the Mandala resurfacing.

Others want to begin work on beautifying the area around the stupa.

Big thanks for all the work.

Yellow

Membership Coordinator reported we now have 144 members who have renewed for this year. We are going to continue emails every other week and then start emailing those who have not renewed. But a big improvement from last month.

They also are offering to work with Yellow to create easier fundraising platforms; exciting!

Administrative Manager reported that he was just sent the P&L for 2020 and that we ended the year with a deficit of about \$8K which he thinks is a very good result considering the year we had with a pandemic and learning how to move everything on-line.

The on-line practices are interesting from the perspective that before our expenses were high to hold retreats but online expenses are very low, 2K expenses for 40K income.

Our PPP loan application was approved and we received 4.7K for salaries. They are gathering tax documents for later in the year and have filed a tax exemption for the schoolhouse.

Last year we received \$27K in donations and had people from 29 countries practicing with us.

Yellow thanked them for continuing in his role as Administrative Manager.

Yellow Update:

Al described a request from Dzamlingar asking us to support their Spanish tax liability. Our ownership 'share' of the costs would come to \$15K over a three year period, \$5k for 2021. TSE needs to respond to Dzamlingar asap.

It was suggested we make our budget first to see if we can afford to give Dzamlingar any money.

We also talked about the money raised to replace the Gompa furnace (4K already), resurfacing the mandala and renovating the bathhouse. Big fundraising push after our membership work this month.

Blue

Updates: explained why the other blue resigned from the Gakyil and thanked him for the work he did. Friends of Blue are really stepping up to help and there is a lot of enthusiasm to talk about the programming people want.

Our Secretary is helping with communications and is very helpful; she is sending thank yous to donors and they are very heartfelt. Thank you to them.

We want to create a schedule for announcements to diversify them. Some for programs, some for fundraising on a clear calendar for their timing.

Blue would also like to do a newsletter or something monthly to limit the need for so many emails.

We need to start discussing soon our plans for this summer -- but not get too far ahead of ourselves until we have a clear idea what the situation might be.

Interest was expressed amongst vajra dancers hoping for a week of vajra dance on the mandala this summer.

Final Items:

Schedule Community Meeting and request moderator **April 11 at 4pm, Emily moderating**

- **Will include budget for the year to be voted on by the community**
- **Programming ideas for the year**
- **Discussion of our ability to support DZG financially**

A member asked for a moment to emphasize the importance of not having all of Rinpoche's work in one place, that there need to be copies so it can never be lost.

Dedication of Merit