

Gakyil Meeting Minutes 3/18/25

Present:

Gakyil members: Al Daggett, Marsha Ellison, Ellen Halbert

Community members: Abimalec Barreras, Joe Nixdorf, Mark Alton-Follansbee, Jamie Peters

Guru Yoga

Agenda

- 1) Members asked questions about the status of Kundrolling, the schoolhouse repairs, and improvements on Khandroling, which were largely answered in the reports from the colors.
- 2) Kundrolling challenges were discussed, including difficulty achieving consensus among older practitioners who have very definite ideas about how to run things and newer practitioners who are seeking changes. There is disagreement about what to do going forward, such as obtaining a new space, to possibly include Tibetan medicine, museum space and practice space, and attracting and retaining new members. Members have so far been reluctant to take a leadership position. There is interest in inviting Yeshe Namkhai, and asking his assistance in energizing and recreating the Ling. Tsegyalgar East has supported efforts to revive the Ling and remains willing to support them.
- 3) Blue report: Local SMS teacher who has worked to engage new people in TE could be encouraged to extend these efforts to NY. Blue will coordinate with secretary to purchase plane tickets for Igor Berkhin for retreat in August. A July sangha retreat with local teachers has been requested by members. Blue will need considerable support to organize this, including a retreat coordinator. Both Igor and Prima Mai (for Dance Dance Dance retreat in September) will be housed at the farmhouse, so Khandroling cabins are available to rent.
- 4) Red report: Repairs and alterations needed to pass building inspection are complete, including second floor emergency lights; illuminated exit signs in dorm, hallway and entrance; laundry room doorway widened; stairway railings raised. Still pending is fire escape certification, which must be done by an engineer. Roof repair is needed due to leaks noted on second floor, and estimates are currently being sought. Major projects needed this year are repaving of schoolhouse parking lot and adding riprap along newly paved road at Khandroling to prevent erosion. Work is also planned at Khandroling on Rinpoche's cabin and bath house porch. Dark retreat space is proposed for second bedroom at farmhouse, which could be relatively easily and inexpensively converted back to light

accommodation as needed. Approval of Yeshe and Yuchen has been sought, with no response as yet.

- 5) Yellow report: Last year's P and L report shows larger loss than was actual, due to increased reserves which came from rent of Tsegyalgar House at Dzamlingar. Last year's loss was due to large infrastructure projects which were expensive but necessary.
- 6) Need for comfortable accommodations at Khandroling was noted. Challenges to creating them include large increase in taxes with added structures, difficulty with permitting, and difficulty with access to water.

Dedication of Merit