

**Sangha Shantivanam
Service Committee Minutes
September 5, 2021**

Meeting convened at 2:05 pm on Zoom.

In attendance

Ziggy Rendler-Bregman, Sylvia Deck, Jerry Deck, Mary Thomas, Jane Dawson, Radha Vignola, Kay Gilles, Steven Hendrickson, Mary Sue Babb, and Carolyn Ames.

Sylvia Deck opened the meeting with a prayer.

Financial Report

Jerry Deck reported that:

- Sangha has \$2057 in the checking account.
- Rent on the Sangha room is paid through August.
- This week Jerry will pay the September and October rent. The rent is \$150 a month.
- This month Jerry will also pay the required insurance on the Sangha Room for the year. Last year the insurance was \$405.00.
- Sangha paid a \$100 stipend to Mary Grace Orr for joining Sangha as a guest teacher on August 22.
- The Service Committee reached consensus that Jerry Deck and Kay Gilles will draw up a financial statement. They will present the statement to the committee at the October meeting. The Service Committee will send out the statement to everyone on the Sangha mailing list as part of general fund-raising plea at Thanksgiving.
- We continue to pay rent to Holy Cross Church for use of our Sangha Room as well as insurance. We appreciate your continuing support while we "shelter in place". Please send your check/contribution to Jerry Deck, 120 Archer Drive, Santa Cruz CA 95060. Checks should be made out to: Sangha Shantivanam.

Sangha Library

- Ziggy, Mary and Mary Sue Babb have worked in the Sangha library culling over 200 books.
- There will be two opportunities for Sangha members to choose books from those taken off the library shelves. On Sunday, September 12th, Sangha members can take any of the culled books they want from a table set up from 2:30 to 4:00 before the in-person Sangha meeting that day. On Saturday, September 18th, the Sangha room will be open between 11:00 and 3:00. Radha, Ziggy and Mary Sue will be there, wearing masks, so that Sangha members can choose any of the culled books that they wish to have.
- Sylvia Deck will look through the books for possible donations to the Santa Clara University Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries.
- The Jesus, Mary and Joseph House may be interested in some of the culled books for their library of spiritual books. Mary Thomas has reached out to Patricia Gorman at the house. Sylvia Deck will choose possible books to donate to them.
- Mary Thomas has written a mission statement for the Sangha library:
The library of Sangha Shantivanam provides books to support members in their spiritual practice and help them learn more about the experience of Ultimate Reality as found in all the world's spiritual traditions.
- Mary Thomas has also acquired two copies of Fr Cyprian's new book "*The God Who Gave You Birth: A Spirituality of Kenosis*" for the Sangha library. Sangha members can check out these copies when we begin the study of the book.

Calendar

- September 12, 2021 "*Arise My Love*"_Chapter 15 in garden *leader needed
- September 19, 2021 Remembrance service for Jane Crowley on Zoom with a Lectio on one of Jane's favorite Rumi poems led by Carolyn Ames and Radha Vignola.
- September 26, 2021 Lectio or guest teacher in garden *leader needed
- October 3, 2021 "*Arise My Love*" Chapter 16 on Zoom led by Steven Hendrickson
- October 10, 2021 "*Arise My Love*" Chapter 17 in garden *leader needed
- October 17, 2021 Lectio or guest teacher on Zoom *leader needed
- October 24, 2021 Cyprian Consiglio, guest teacher – in person, with all public health guidelines at the time

- October 31, 2021 No Sangha, Halloween
- November 7, 2021 Book Study on Islam.
- November 14, 2021 Book Study on Islam.
- November 21, 2021 Lectio/Guest Teacher
- November 28, 2021 No Sangha Thanksgiving
- December 5, 2021 Lectio/Guest Teacher
- December 12, 2021 Book Study on Islam.
- December 18, 2021 Book Study on Islam.

***Leaders** needed for September 12th and 26th, October 10th and 17th.

Curriculum

- Service Committee decided that we will study Islam in the fall with reading and guest teachers.
- Jane Dawson and Carolyn Ames will form a subcommittee. They will bring two book possibilities to the Service Committee and the committee will choose the book Sangha will study at the October meeting.
- Sangha will study Fr Cyprian's new book, *"The God Who Gave You Birth: A Spirituality of Kenosis"* in the new year.
- The book is available on Amazon in paperback or e-book format.
- Cyprian sent a thumb drive with the conferences from a recent retreat that he led. Sangha will be able to use these for our meetings.
- Jane Dawson, Sylvia Deck, Ziggy Rendler-Bregman and Mary Sue Babb will form a subcommittee to explore the possibilities for sharing spiritual autobiographies within our Sangha meetings.

Outreach

- The Service Committee reached consensus to pay \$50 for membership in the University Interfaith Council. Membership allows Ziggy to share Sangha activities with the council.

Membership

- The Service Committee discussed the role of the website in attracting new members.
- They also discussed how to invite more diversity into Sangha.
- Ziggy will contact members who have not been coming to Sangha recently.

Sangha Room

- The Service Committee discussed having a memorial corner in the Sangha rooms in remembrance of Sangha members who have passed. We discussed putting the icons, written by Laurie Bair that she bequeathed to Sangha in the memorial corner.
- The committee also discussed how to meet in person when the weather changes.

Land Acknowledgement

- The Service Committee discussed including a Land Acknowledgement in the Sangha service when Sangha meets in person.
- Mary Sue Babb and Sylvia Deck will work on the current Land Acknowledgement based on feedback from the committee and bring it to the October meeting.

Ziggy concluded the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Carolyn Ames
Recording Secretary