

Sangha Shantivanam
Service Committee Meeting
January 5, 2020

Attending: Laurie Bair, Jane Dawson, Jerry Deck, Sylvia Deck, Sister Barbara Long, Ziggy Rendler-Bregman, Mary Thomas, Radha Vignola, Linda Weaver

Treasurer's Report:

- We received \$471 in donations at the New Year's Eve Vigil and agreed to reimburse Ziggy \$40 for posters; Jerry will write a check for \$400 to Coastanoan Indian Research Inc. Thank you to Ziggy, Sandy, and others who covered many costs.
- We have \$2719 in our checking account.
- Expected expenses in 2020:
 - \$1650, rent
 - \$200, Tent of Abraham contribution
 - 400, insurance
 - \$150, miscellaneous
 - \$2400, total
- Expected income: \$80-100 per meeting
- We agreed to send a check for \$500 to New Camaldoli Hermitage.

Hospitality:

- To keep the sangha room fresh and inviting, we agreed to have a "work party" at 3:30 before the second meeting of each month for volunteers to vacuum, dust, etc. January 19 will be first time.
- In the future we'd like to consider how to welcome new people at sangha meetings.

New Year's Eve Vigil

- What we liked:
 - The environment was well set up and made good use of the space ("like a big living room")
 - Felt like family
 - "Time was standing still"
 - The activity stations invited engagement from the beginning and were all popular ("fun to go around and see what there was to do")
 - Good spread of food, the warm soup was popular
 - Lots of volunteers helping out
 - Land acknowledgement and opening blessing
 - Ziggy did a lot of outreach and follow-up, so there were many participants from outside the sangha
 - Social media and word of mouth provided excellent publicity
- How could we improve?
 - Continue these connections throughout the year, perhaps a blanket ceremony with Kanyon Sayers-Rood

- Shorten the event, perhaps just three hours, perhaps start a little later (but we also want it to be a good option for families)
- Less time between talks
- Include representatives from Hinduism, Sikhs, Sufis
- Keep the craft table tidy and attractive
- Give presenters more time
- Would have liked to hear about *Laudato Si*
- We were disappointed in the paucity of young people
- More time for contemplation
- Different topic next year?
- Start Mass earlier, so there's less time to wait after the vigil ends
- Even though Carolyn sent press releases to local news outlets, there was no PR in print sources

Sangha liturgy: Laurie would like to revise our prayer book, in particular to add more psalms. The Camaldolese Office book has good translations. Sister Barbara suggested asking Cyprian what he's using now for ideas on new closing prayers.

Field trip: The sangha is going to New Camaldoli on February 1st for 2 conferences with Cyprian and midday prayer with the monks. Radha will share details by email for registration.

Curriculum development: Jane is looking for members who are interested in working with her on this; Radha will include a call for volunteers in the next email.

Sangha website: Kay Gilles would like feedback.

Calendar:

- January 19: Sangha meeting, *Prayer in the Cave of the Heart*, chapter 5 (Mary Thomas leading) Sangha Clean-up at 3:30.
- February 1: field trip to New Camaldoli
- February 15: Sangha meeting, *Prayer in the Cave of the Heart*, chapter 6 (leader TBA)
- March 1: Tent of Abraham
- March 15
 - Service Committee meeting at 2:30
 - Work party at 3:30?
 - Sangha meeting, *Prayer in the Cave of the Heart*, chapter 7 (leader TBA)
- April 5:
 - Sangha meeting, *Prayer in the Cave of the Heart*, chapter 8 (leader TBA)
- April 17-18 Ziggy will check with Cyprian about sangha retreat
- May 3
 - Service Committee meeting at 2:30

- Sangha meeting, *Prayer in the Cave of the Heart* summing up? (leader TBA)
- May 24
 - Work party at 3:30?
 - Sangha meeting, topic TBA
- June 7
 - Service Committee meeting at 2:30
 - Sangha meeting, topic TBA
- June 28
 - Work party at 3:30?
 - Sangha meeting, topic TBA

FYI: Iliia Deliiio will speak at Santa Clara University on March 25th, and the event will be live-streamed at Villa Maria del Mar.