

Oneness Board Meeting – May 2011

Present: Linda Lindsay, Phil Notermann, Tony Rasch, Patsy Boyer, Mansur Kreps

5/19/11

Invocation and dances for unity.

Discussion of how to work with Dances of Universal Peace (DUP) organizations to include more young person input. Patsy presented good results from a Dances of Universal Peace North America (DUPNA) teleconference and suggested that we support another teleconference in conjunction with DUP. **Board gave enthusiastic support for working with DUPNA on a teleconference project directed toward attracting the next generation, and expressed interest in future projects.** Tentative date is June 13.

Board check-in followed and first discussion of various issues. Tony made clear that this would be his last meeting as a Board member.

5/20/11

Discussion around scholarship money and its uses. Scholarships will generally be on a matching basis. **Board Resolution: Add \$1000 to the scholarship fund immediately, and authorize the EC to increase the amount by another \$1000 if appropriate. Scholarships will be given only with an application.** Patsy produced and Board was excited about a writeup for DUPNA newsletter.

Financial report was given. An updated report will be sent at the end of the month. Current liquid assets beyond what is expected to be needed by Wilderness Dance Camp (WDC) are in excess of \$150,000. We are still budgeting an annual deficit of \$10,000 to \$20,000. WDC registration is ahead of projection. Last year's donation mailing raised about \$1500. Board expressed support for new website software and location, and for going to a mechanism such as Paypal for credit card transactions to reduce costs.

Common Ground: main house rented for \$800/mo and the cottage for \$400/mo. This puts us to a net cash loss of about \$300/mo, but the equity is increasing by about \$480/mo. Current estimate for sale price is between \$150,000 and \$200,000. **Board authorized Tony to pursue the sale of Common Ground with some recompense on sale.** Board suggested \$165,000. Owner financing discouraged.

**Tony agreed to let his address continue to be used as the corporate address. Phil will assume the position of Vice-Chair.**

Lava went well. Atmosphere was relaxed and drop-ins were allowed. There was much volunteerism. Many new people showed up. Lava more than paid for itself, at attendance 55 full time equivalent. Support was given for less experienced leaders. Registrar was given more control over fiduciary, which worked better. Discussion around distributing a flyer in the local community and increasing local community attendance. Further discussion around continuing the relaxed atmosphere.

Wilderness is on schedule and in good shape. Karma Yoga positions are almost all filled. Nothing big is on the horizon. Linda will continue to work with the camp.

Small grants: \$1900 given out. Linda will propagate small grant deadlines. Compact Disk (CD) production needs to have permissions from artists, but is on track. Suggestion to have grant reports and photos on website.

Visioning and values: Board members shared what was individually important to each of them. Discussion on the basic values of Oneness and possible futures.

What if we decide to disband Oneness? How do we do it and what do we do? Set up WDC and Lava, give money to DUPNA and/or Dances of Universal Peace International (DUPI)? Keep this in mind as an exit strategy.

Enthusiastic discussion on creating an event with either big names or another organization where the values espoused and created by the Dances are valued. Explore possibility of doing something "big and bold", taking a risk to do a substantial project. Announce at camp. "We want your vision, passion, and participation in heroic action."

Financial support to international: **Board Resolution: Make a \$5,000 grant to DUPI for 2011 fundraising. If the fundraising impact is substantial, a further \$5,000 for 2012 is possible.** Board sentiment is that no more money after that will be given. Executive Director (ED) is directed to remind DUPI of the financial support that Oneness has provided in the last three years in various forms and of current income streams.

More dancing by board.

Enhancing board membership: who are we looking for? Passion for the dances. Basically local, both for congruence and expense. Montana resident desirable. Younger persons. Desirable skills: social networking, website support, fundraising expertise, grant writing. Use volunteer positions as an avenue to Board membership.

Get people excited about Oneness and therefore Board. Talk with Jorge and Sara about a mini-heroic action example at WDC of dances working with some other thrust – activism?

Pursue social networking to communicate organization, events, increase participation by volunteers.

5/21/11

Opening dances.

Why Dances/Oneness? Community of spiritual seekers; circle consciousness, movement prayer, opening community of love for outside of Dance meetings; being in heart instead of head; embodying the sacred; connection through shared Dance. Create/support settings where this can happen.

We want to be part of a larger scheme that draws or pulls people into awareness and oneness. Use our resources in a bigger way to increase the presence of the Dances in the world.

Tap into social networking to put out a RFP for our desire to expand Dance presence. Check out 2011 WDC page in Facebook.

Discussion around support of 3 year dance leadership training possibly to be held in Hamilton for Youth. Suggestion to ask people at WDC about interest.

ED is working full time on a part time wage and will do so through WDC but needs help afterward. ED oversee rather than do website, social networking, program manager work.

Patsy expressed the need for a new website. Window of opportunity between WDC and Lava.

Board went through the current WDC attendance roster to identify potential members. Approach DUPI board members to see if one of them wants to sit on our board.

Board expressed thanks to Kay for her work on behalf of Oneness in the form of a card, flowers, and a \$100 gift certificate.

Action items:

Patsy: NA telecom; DUPNA newsletter, website RFP, contact young people about coming to WDC.

Linda: send updated financials to everyone; small grant announcements 6 and 2 weeks prior to deadlines; letter with funds do DUPI; contact Joe M about social networking

Linda and Patsy: call Darvesha to create space at camp for "heroic action" including Jorge and

ALL: contact prospective board members for interest as volunteers and/or board members and whether they would stay an extra day at camp to attend the board meeting. Share inspiration about "heroic action" as it comes without judgment.

Comment [L1]: