

Steering Committee Meeting Summary

16 March, 2019

1. Announcements/Housekeeping/Check-ins
 - a. Note-taker – Lisa
 - b. Prior meeting minutes approved
 - c. Review of action steps from March 10 meeting
2. Thematic issues/Working Groups
 - a. Governance – Challenge to engage with many voices and points of view. It is a large group. It will be helpful to create smaller working groups. There are some unresolved disagreements as well as cooperative work underway. How can we work effectively with discord/disagreement?
 - b. Healing and Protection – Has had one meeting and several initiatives were identified. The challenge is to find times when everyone can meet. Many PT members are multiply committed both on the PT and in their local centers. In lieu of postponing another meeting until everyone is available, 2 consecutive Sunday meetings have been offered to keep the conversation going.
 - c. Tech/Comms – The website is ready for sharing with the PT for feedback. The T/C WG has ongoing commitment to transparency and is working in a focused and practical way. The need for additional data storage on a google drive is being worked on with Shambhala Europe where resources are available. Further conversation is needed to finalize.
 - d. Processes – Off to a good start. Sub-groups will be finalized by 3/24. There is a “pre-steps” working group that has overlap with Center Support and Governance. There will be several steps to connect all the interest groups to a joined effort. Need to give community the feeling that there is a journey here. The Pre-Steps WG will provide cohesion and alignment across the community. A delicate balance re: providing direction without recreating hierarchy.
 - e. Culture Change – developing awareness of the varying needs and sensibilities captured in the Culture Change conversation. A plan to communicate with individuals to gather a deeper understanding of regional and affinity group viewpoints and perspectives. Culture Change may be more expansive, including many things such as differing views of monarchy. The challenge of holding many voices and helping folks understand how they may be triggered by certain kinds of disagreement or differing views. How to hold our feelings so we can work together. It is felt the group is off to a good start.
 - f. Community Building –
 - i. The Center and Group Support WG is developing methods for connecting Centers so they can all learn from what one another are doing. A survey is needed. There is an initial connection with Cynthia McKay, who is working with Center Directors. Concern about confusion developing across many conversations around Center Support. Additional group conveners have been requested for this group.

- ii. Offerings WG is working to identify major questions and who are the stakeholders. Here also a wish for a survey to assess how Shambhalian understand the offerings. Additional group conveners have been solicited for this group as well.
- 3. Key Issues/Priorities re: SC and Working Groups
 - a. there is confusion about the names of the Process Team and the Processes Working Group. The name of the latter will be changed on the groups io account.
 - b. the Olive Branch report will be released next week. It has been delayed as the Olive Branch consultants sought consent from the participants to release their accounts to the public. This release will likely create another ripple effect across the community. How can we assist the community? Many communities are engaged in effective local support processes and we can trust in that where it is working well.
 - c. Is it possible to offer training for PT members in holding pain and trauma?
 - d. Can we create a Facebook group for center leaders to share best practices and provide support?
 - e. The importance of regional/cultural relevance of the work and offerings was discussed. This must be remembered every step of the way.
 - f. SC representation on WGs: can we ask in each WG if there are one or two people on who are willing to hold the administrative work of the group so the SC member on the group does not become a road block due to time constraint?
- 4. Planning the full PT Zoom meeting
 - a. The full PT Zoom meeting flash mob will meet to plan this event.
- 5. MLN/IB Updates:
 - a. Discussion of the letter to the MLN individuals to acknowledge their offering of support. SC members will review the letter before the next meeting and it will be decided either asynchronously or in the next meeting.
 - b. There is a survey sub-group that includes IB members to discuss a community-wide survey that will meet many inquiry needs.
- 6. Discussion of SC meeting schedule
 - a. It was agreed that we will continue to alternate meetings between Saturdays and Sundays.
 - b. Tentative longer 4 hour meeting date: April 21st.
- 7. Action Items
 - a. SC members to review letter to MLN, comment and perhaps finalize before next mtg
 - b. Use Groups io calendar to show meetings we are scheduling
 - c. Survey working group will begin meeting
 - d. Create Facebook group for Center Leaders