

Process Team Steering Committee

Meeting Notes

April 7, 2019

Present: Deborah Marshall, dian marie hosking, Fred Meyer, Jim Fladmark, LaDawn Haglund, Susan Skjei, Martin Ramstedt (convenor), David Marshall (note taker)

Regrets: Lisa Piemont, Paul Kelway

1. Announcements/Housekeeping: Minutes of the March 30th meeting under revision.

[Martin] Reminder to all of us to balance our contributions to our meetings – to hold back if we habitually contribute more, speak up if we habitually contribute less.

2. Check-Ins

3. All-PT Zoom call: Scheduled for 2:00 – 4:00 PM Eastern, Saturday, April 27th.
Discussion of the view, purpose, and content of the call ensued.

4. Interim Board Update: The IB's current main priorities are working on the recommendations from An Olive Branch and reviewing the vetting processes for appointments of teachers and office-holders. The IB is asking for collaboration with the PT on these. The IB feels it is very important to show that Shambhala is serious about addressing these critical legal issues. The PT needs to be viewed as credible, impactful, relevant, and connected to what else is happening across Shambhala [from Susan's discussions with the IB and the Acharyas].

THEMATIC ISSUES/WORKING GROUPS

5. Team/Topical Group Report-Back

a. Processes: A small working group has been developing a map of how the PT could operate over its tenure. This map was presented and discussed.

b. Communications: How do we respond to the pointed questions and demands that we are receiving from the community? LaDawn requests help with this.

c. Governance: Subgroups formed for Models, Gov/Cultural Inclusion, Shambhala History, and Finance & Legal have been formed and will be meeting soon or have already met. Work is underway in all these groups.

d. Community Building: Center Support subgroup has been meeting with Cynthia McKay (Practice and Education) to establish a common ground for collaboration and assistance. Cynthia suggested that the SC/PT use the Shambhala Database to directly contact specific groups of people, e.g. Center financial officers. Offerings subgroup has divided into four task-oriented groups and their work is beginning.

e. Healing & Learning: The first meeting has been scheduled for a small group to review the Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics.

f. Culture Change: Continuing to work on orienting the group towards engaging with the community. Before its next meeting, the group will review the final report from the (now disbanded) Shambhala Office of Social Engagement and watch the movie “Human Flow” to provide some context.

6. Additional/New Topics

A general discussion ensued on technical communication/coordination (“how to’s”) with the various working groups and subgroups.

7. Discussion Summary

a. All-PT Zoom Call

- Suggestion to use the breakout session as a time to contemplate the care and conduct/code of ethics, in the sense of 'becoming familiar with,' not debating or deciding. Need to develop questions for this contemplation.
- Will include presentations on dialogue and technology (tools, platforms for PT work).
- Need to write a cover letter for when we send the meeting invitation to the PT. The letter should contain a link to the (revised) Shambhala Care & Conduct policy, and the Code of Ethics and set of recommendations submitted by An Olive Branch, with a 'homework assignment' for the PT to review these documents before the Zoom call.
- The final schedule and content of the call should remain fluid until close to the time of the call, to accommodate our rapidly shifting ground.

b. PT Map

- While different topic areas may receive special emphasis at different times, it is important to also keep in mind that the work needs to be ongoing in all areas throughout and beyond the life of the PT.
- Any map, no matter how incomplete, flawed, or temporary, is better than no map at all. A map can inspire without being accurate.
- More thought needs to be put in on the content and sequencing of the different phases/seasons of the work.
- The map attempts to emphasize dialogic means of strengthening the community, while also seeking to gather and synthesize information in useful ways.

NEXT STEPS

8. Action Items, responsible party, and target date

- Revise minutes of March 30th and post for SC approval with 24-hour response; Jim; April 9th.
- Add updates from our contacts with the Interim Board, Acharyas, and other stakeholder groups as a regular agenda item for all our meetings; SC Convenors; ongoing.

- Develop contemplation questions for the All-PT Zoom breakout session on Conduct/Ethics; dian marie, Susan, Lisa; by next meeting (?).
- Write a cover letter to send to the PT about the All-PT Zoom call, to contain links to the Conduct/Ethics documents; Jim; April 9th to LaDawn; April 10th from LaDawn to the SC for review.
- Establish Shambhala Database access to allow direct SC/PT contact with groups in Shambhala; Fred; before next SC meeting (?).
- If you wish to view the activity of subgroups on Groups.io, send a list of the groups to David and he will add you as a member to the subgroup(s).
- [SC Homework] Read the following reports and documents, all available on the Interim Board webpage: (revised, current) Shambhala Care & Conduct policy, Code of Ethics and set of recommendations submitted by An Olive Branch, and the final report of the Shambhala Office of Social Engagement; All SC members; before the next SC meeting.

Next SC meeting: Saturday, April 13th, 1:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern, via Zoom.