

ZEN CENTER

Minutes of the Business Meeting of May 2, 1964

Present: Reverend Suzuki, Reverend Katagiri

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Trustees: Philip Wilson, Grahame Petchey, Dick Baker, Bill Kwong, Jean Ross, Mike and Trudy Dixon.

Members: Claud Dalenburg, Hal Fore, Pam Tomkins, Norman Stiegelmeier, Pat Herreshoff.

- 1) The meeting was called to order by the president, Philip Wilson. The minutes of the business meeting of April 11th were read; there was one correction: the zabutons which the minutes stated Ginny Baker would make, were in reality made by both Ginny and Pam Tomkins.
- 2) The financial report for April was given by Grahame Petchey. He also reported that the expenses recorded and to be recorded for sesshin would probably be in excess of the \$92.06 received so far. Also there is a \$30.00 bill for the advertisements in the newspapers.
- 3) Under new business, Trudy Dixon suggested that for future sesshins sandwiches and soup be served for the midday meal to cut down on time and confusion in the kitchen. She felt that the emphasis should be on simple meals quickly prepared, and said that kitchen service was for her personally at least, often a strain. Reverend Suzuki said that this was quite usual, and that was why in monasteries in Japan, only the most sincere students were put on kitchen duty. He said that for sesshins which include a Sunday, it may be better to prepare some simple meal in advance, as often the Japanese group uses the kitchen on that day. But for other days, the general feeling of the group was that a regular meal should be prepared for lunch as has been done in the past. Jean Ross, however, suggested that one person be put in charge of assigning duties in the kitchen. She would let people know well in advance when they would be needed, and arrange so that no more than the necessary number be in the kitchen at any one time, (perhaps three or four to prepare the meal, and then when the gong sounds, others would come to help serve it.) Jean also felt that a good person to be so in charge would be Betty Warren who has done such an excellent job in managing kitchen affairs in the past. It was generally felt that a greater emphasis on quiet in the kitchen would be commendable.

Dick Baker suggested that men be included in kitchen staffing, though not on the levels of command. Philip Wilson felt just the opposite; Jean Ross felt that, one way or the other, the presence of a male in the kitchen contributed a certain stabilizing influence. At any rate, the person in charge would decide upon who was necessary at any one time and let them know.

Claud Dalenburg suggested that for those who require more food, a serving of seconds would be welcome. The person in charge would also appoint servers of seconds - people to pass around extra rice etc. The assembly voted to appoint Betty Warren to be in charge of kitchen staffing.

Dick Baker suggested that trays be carried out in a more orderly fashion: people should carry only one tray at a time, stand together and bow, and then proceed in order to the kitchen. If you come back to get another tray, go all the way around,

to attend memorial day services for the ancestors. The annual session lasting a week was tentatively set for August ~~21st-24th~~ 30 ~~September 6th.~~

10) Dick suggested that we find out about 3rd class mailing permit for the Wind Bell, which Hal Fore said that he would do.

11) Reverend Suzuki announced a Soto Zen Conference for L.A., Monterey and S.F. to be held at Asilomar, California on June 6th and 7th to which we should all plan to attend if possible. The cost would be \$13.00/day for room (would hold two) and food.

12) The Wesak Ceremony celebrating Buddha's birth, Enlightenment, and Nirvana, planned for May 24th by Reverend Price was discussed. It had to be determined if and to what extent Zen Center should participate. Reverend Suzuki and Philip Wilson agreed to go and talk to Reverend Price more fully about his plans.

13) The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Trudy Dixon, secretary