

Minutes of the Business Meeting of August 1, 1964.

PRESENT: Reverend Suzuki, Reverend Katagiri

TRUSTEES: Phillip Wilson, Betty Warren, Grahame Petchey,
Jean Ross, Mike and Trudy Dixon.

MEMBERS: Chick Reeder, Silas Hoadley, Seiyo Tsuji, Joe
Lopresti, Della Goertz, Frank Jonas, Pat
Herreshoff, Ann Combs, Elissa Slanger

GUESTS: Irene Horowitz

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by the president, Phillip Wilson. The minutes were read and there was one correction: Grahame Petchey pointed out that he and Pat are working on the "transliteration" not the "translation into English" of the So-Shoji.
- 2) The treasurer then gave the financial report for July, which showed that Zen Center had spent \$120.00 more dollars than it had brought in during the month. Grahame felt that this was due to the fact that no special contributions came in for the month; usually several ^{contributions} of one or two hundred dollars (some times) are received. Average expenses seem to run higher than average minimum income.
- 3) New Business: Frank Jonas suggested that Zen Center start a study group and gave as an example Douglas Burns' Neo-Dharma, a Hinayana group, which meets regularly for group discussions. Possibly in the future he felt that the study group (Zen Center might form) could have speakers come too. Phillip pointed out that Zen Center has a meeting each Wednesday evening for study of the Hekigan Roku or Blue Cliff Records book, but Frank said that what he had in mind was a more informal gathering that was not a lecture, but a group discussion. He requested permission to start one and to have it announced in the next issue of the Wind Bell. Jean suggested as a starter that all those interested should come to the Temple at 6 p.m., the following Wednesday August 5, and meet to go out to supper at a Japanese restaurant, where they could talk around the table. Reverend Suzuki said that if, in the future, we are able to use the northwest corner of the balcony for a library-sitting room, then it could be used for discussions too. It needs light, however, and it may cost as much as \$500.00 to put in a window. Grahame suggested that someone make a thorough study of the total cost before the Center should try and decide whether it was a possible project or not, and Silas volunteered to do this. Ann Combs pointed out that if it is anywhere near that expensive, Zen Center should not consider it, since we are to move to a new temple in several years. Phillip said that meanwhile we should proceed with the library plans and use electricity as there are outlets there. Trudy said that she and Mike would bring a lamp. The discussion

then left this brief detour into old business and swing back to Frank's new business of study group, and it was decided definitely to meet at the temple on Wednesday for an initial start.

4) Trudy then read a list of sesshin regulations for posting on the bulletin board. Betty Warren felt that some suggestion about clothes should be included as was done in the past list printed in the July-August WindBell of last summer. Clothes should not be too bright; holes in the stockings should be eschewed, and women should wear wide skirts. Men also might find it most beneficial to wear loose-fitting trousers. Rev. Suzuki felt that clothing should be clean and tidy. Irene Horowitz, who is a visitor with us for awhile from the First Zen Institute in New York City, said that there they have standard sitting-robos, imported from Japan, at a cost of \$12,00 each; they were of stiff heavy cotton; each member had his own, which he kept at the Temple to use at his own option. Reverend Suzuki said that he and Reverend Katagiri had discussed the possibility of some kind of skirt to be available for either women or men who might need them. Many problems are involved for Zen Center: would we make them or buy them? what style? where to store them and where to change into them? etc. ~~Rassikiyaka~~ The question of standard sitting clothing for Zen Center was set aside for the future, when, possibly, answers to these problems may present themselves.

5) Irene Horowitz asked about the story in the newspaper of the evening before, a copy of which had been pinned on the bulletin board. It concerned the ~~visit from~~ recent visit from the dignitaries of Kamakura University. Irene had two questions: were they indeed Zen Masters as the paper reported, and was it really true that at the present there are 4,000 practicing Zen Buddhists in San Francisco, which the paper also asserted. As to the former question, Reverend Suzuki said that the President of the University was also a Zen master; that the other gentleman was the Dean, and the third a priest. As to the latter question, it was simply not true that there are 4,000. Frank Jonas also pointed out that there was also an error in what they said about giving lectures at Christian churches. Reverend Suzuki said that it was almost impossible to have correct information printed, because of the great liability for misunderstanding. He said that publicity is important, but that we should not discuss it too much, and if it comes out wrong, we can only ignore it; whatever they say, they say; what is important is always to preserve the constant right way. Frank said he felt we should guard against false publicity; Grahame pointed out that we do have a public relations manager, but it is not always possible on the spur of the moment to arrange to have her there, and reporters talk to anyone. Reverend Suzuki said that it was almost impossible to guard against it; each time there is some mistake, so if we concern ourselves about it too much it may just be a waste of time. Grahame pointed out that at least it is a good idea to write it out, so that we have a record of what we have reported before they edit. Reverend Suzuki said that it may be better just to keep silent!

6) Reverend Suzuki, in answer to a question from Betty, said that the week-sesshin, to run from Aug. 10-15th, would be from 5:45 am until 7:00 p.m. except for those sleeping there in which case it would end at 9:00 p.m.

7) The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Trudy Dixon, Secretary