

MINUTES VVC UMBRELLA GROUP PAGE 1

June 14th Meeting held at John and Shelly's house.

Present: Shelly, Janet, Lynne M, Brock, Linda, Rod, Sally, Lynne W, Heather, Isy, John

Chair: Janet **Minutes:** Isy **Financial report:** Sally

| Item and Details | Action |
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| <p>Financial update:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> VVC was issued a T4 slip last year as the High Interest Savings account made over \$50.00 interest. All money is now moved to chequing where it makes less interest. Saving account is open but not being used. Dana from the Study Groups is less than is needed to cover rental costs and Heather's travel expenses. Other moneys are covering these costs. There is a healthy deposit balance. Current balance: \$ 4336.29 Projected expenses: \$ 2080.00 Deposits (Jan-June): \$ 3152.14 Withdrawals (Jan-Ju): \$1999.82 Difference: \$1152.32 | <p>* Envisioning mtg.(EM) to discuss best use our accounts, future direction for VVC.</p> <p>* EM to discuss generating money, how much money do we need, what to use "extra" for.</p> <p>* Announcement to be made at each sitting re: dana, generosity and need to cover costs</p> |
| <p>Scholarship:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Three requests for funds were made and 2 were granted. There was some confusion following the last Sunday. Community sit as 2 Dana baskets were put out. Lively discussion around "extra "money. Should it go to Scholarship? Are there other options? What about hosting residential retreats and extra costs involved. What are other projected expenses? Should we "fund raise" or have a minimal bank balance? What about sustaining membership? Do we keep it simple or become more bureaucratic with accountants and non profit status? FYI: Sally checked with the bank about sustaining membership. There is no easy way to facilitate this. Each person would need to individually have their own bank account with Coast Savings and authorize monthly deposits to VVC. | <p>*EM to clarify criteria for grants</p> <p>*Decision: to only put one basket out. Money would first be used to pay rent and extra would go into banking acc't.</p> <p>***EM to discuss money issues, values and future direction.</p> <p>*Much appreciation to Sally for tending to financial matters.</p> <p>*Rod & Brock to coordinate an EM.</p> |
| <p>Retreats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aug 29/30 retreat will include a Potluck lunch on Sun. for all the sanga. Lunch at approx 12:30 followed by a small group exercise lead by Heather; to end in a large group. All the sanga are invited to the potluck whether or not they sit the retreat. Feedback from the Beginners Retreat was really good from new and experienced meditators. Some discussion on retreat info that was sent out as there were a number of questions sent to the registrar. Beginners have lots of questions. | <p>*Brock to be Manager. He will request assistance from the sanga for a Potluck Manager.</p> <p>*two emails to go out: #1 retreat info, #2 potluck info.</p> <p>*Heather to assist with wording for retreat info.</p> <p>*** one retreat a year will be dedicated to Beginners.</p> |

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| <p>3. Nov 7/8 Retreat will be held at Queenswood. The Lounge will hold up to 60 people. A conference room for interviews was included for free. There is parking on the grounds. Walking areas need to be clarified. Rent is \$262.00/day. Lunch is \$11.55pp/day and must be included per person.</p> <p>Discussion on people canceling and VVC still needing to pay for the meals.</p> <p>Discussion on the increased cost of retreats at Queenswood from approx. \$30.00 to \$50.00 (but incl. lunch).</p> <p>Discussion on the need to evaluate the facilities and costs at Queenswood following the Nov. retreat.</p> <p>4. The Retreat Manual will need to be updated to reflect the specifics of Queenswood location.</p> <p>5. There was agreement to keep the option open of using Goward House for future retreats. Future possibilities are for one day retreats, W/E retreats and Residential Retreats...different locations may work for different needs.</p> | <p>*Lynne Walker is manager, she knows Queenswood well. Janet is possibly available as Registrar.</p> <p>*Decision: to not collect money ahead of the retreat date as it creates too many complications and work for the registrar and treasurer.</p> <p>* Sally will assist in wording retreat info to reflect expectations and costs involved in canceling.</p> <p>*Lynne & Lynne will update manual.</p> <p>* EM to look at retreat formats and lengths and locations</p> |
| <p>Monthly sits at Yoga Studio:</p> <p>6. Attendance is slowly growing to around 12-16 with occasionally over 20. Only a few of the umbrella group are regulars. There was some difficulty over the winter with getting folks to volunteer with leading the sit. Discussion on the fact that different facilitators do things differently. Do we need more cohesiveness?</p> | <p>*EM- does the format need to change/ improved guidelines? Rod will place a hard copy of the guidelines (that are on line) with the set up materials. Isy will assist in updating guidelines.</p> <p>*Lynne W has volunteered to occasionally lead the sit.</p> |
| <p>Website:</p> <p>7. Group agreed for Rod to update the website with a new format that will give more options for communication.</p> <p>8. Possibility of posting meeting minutes on the new website discussed. The area would be separate and password protected.</p> | <p>*Linda and Rod will take over the running of the website and Christine will be back-up.</p> <p>*EM- how to improve communication with the larger VVC community.</p> |
| <p>Study Group with Heather:</p> <p>9. Feedback was given to Heather that Sunday afternoons were working well and meeting approx every month works well too.</p> <p>10. Feedback that more small- group work would be good for community building.</p> <p>11. Heather not available in Sept, Nov and possibly Oct. Decision ade to keep the momentum going with monthly sits and to find an alternate facilitator.</p> | <p>*Sally to check with Helga for availability of the Yoga studio in the fall.</p> <p>* not to meet over Thanksgiving W/E</p> <p>*find alternate facilitator as needed.</p> |

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| <p>Visiting Teachers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teachers occasionally in Victoria/ Vancouver/Salt Spring could be asked to lead an evening sit/discussion if it fits their schedule. Locals could provide accommodation or there is some money available for hotels 2. Arriana is coming Aug 21 for a retreat. 3. Pascal Le Clare will be coming July 31 for a retreat on Salt Spring | <p>*Sally & Janet will see if they can arrange an evening sit with her at the Yoga studio. * Heather will see if he would be available for an evening sit in Victoria</p> |
| <p>Inviting an Ajahn:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The group expressed an interest in pursuing this. Some discussion on the special needs of a Ajahn and how best to facilitate them. Queenswood may prove to be a good location for housing them and to hold a residential retreat. | <p>*Brock will check into the possibility of an Ajahn coming from Berken (Kamloops) to lead a retreat in Victoria 2010 or 2011. *EM-1. residential retreats 2. hosting an Ajahn</p> |
| <p>Next Umbrella meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decision to increase meeting to 4 times a year instead of 3 as there is so much to discuss. 2. Study Group meeting on Sept 27th. Umbrella group could meet prior to this with a pot luck lunch. | <p>*Date and location to be confirmed. Shelly and John may host but Isy and Rod will be back ups.</p> |
| <p>Envisioning Meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spend a day working with the issues listed above; to envision growth, direction and financial stability for VVC. 2. Heather will host the day on Salt Spring. | <p>* July or Aug preferred time. *Isy to poll the Umbrella group for the best date to fit with Heather's schedule. *Brock and Rod to coordinate the day.</p> |