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THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY

Meeting of the Board of Trustees
March 31, 1990
New York City

Present: Eido Tai Shimano; Andy Afable, Jean Bankier, Karen Barnes, Denis Kelly, Wilkie Pretorius, Richard Rudin, David Schneyer, Yasuko Shimano and Bernard Spitz

Board President Jean Bankier said words of welcome to Eido Roshi and Yasuko Shimano after their year-long absence.

The minutes of the January 16th meeting were read and approved. Yasuko Shimano presented the annual financial report of the Zen Studies Society Endowment Fund.

Eido Roshi announced that Clark Strand had resigned as resident monk of New York Zendo. There seemed to be a problem with students filling the post of resident director. He said that Mrs. Shimano received lay-ordination 25 years ago and he expressed his wish to appoint her as Director of New York Zendo in order to have stability and continuation. Susan Morningstar would remain as resident student; Wilkie Pretorius as treasurer. The motion was approved.

During the ensuing discussion, Denis Kelly remarked that most other Zen groups had problems with students not wanting to leave, while here they do not seem to stay on. It seemed that something was wrong and that the reasons should be determined.

David Schneyer supported the statement and said that in the Buddhist tradition the most important thing was transmission of dharma. The question why American students do not seem to be able to commit themselves should be addressed with urgency as Americans will eventually have to take over positions of leadership.

Eido Roshi reported that Dai Bosatsu was going through a period of stability. He had decided to appoint Denis Kelly as Vice Abbot, with the installation to take place on July 4th.

The financial situation of Dai Bosatsu came under discussion and Denis Kelly said he had plans to form a committee to take care of fund raising. He would present his plans to the board at the next meeting.

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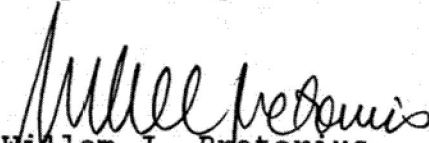
David Schneyer suggested that the organizational structure of Dai Bosatsu Zendo be reviewed to provide more opportunity for students to live and practice there without removing them totally from society.

Denis Kelly suggested an outside consultant be brought in to do research and to suggest effective ways in which organizational changes be made.

Rita Owen: Eido Roshi would talk to Sheila Wolcott. It was decided that formal discussions would be held by the staff of Dai Bosatsu Zendo and that it would now be treated as a staff matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Willem J. Pretorius
Secretary