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THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY, INC.

Board of Directors Meeting
July 30, 1991
New York City

Present: Eido Tai Shimano, Roshi; Jean Bankier, John Brady,
Denis Kelly, Willem Pretorius, Richard Rudin, Yasuko
Shimano, Bernard Spitz and Robert Greene.

Excused: Andy Afable

Absent: Karen Barnes

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Eido Roshi. He welcomed Robert Greene, counsel for the Zen Studies Society, who was attending the meeting in that capacity.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 13, 1991 meeting were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

a) Dai Bosatsu Zendo

Denis Kelly presented the report for Dai Bosatsu Zendo.

James Wolcott: Wolcott had been fired because he lacked the maintenance skills needed by DBZ. Bruce Aldredge has been hired to fill the post. He will not use the gatehouse as a residence, but will eventually rent the hunting cabin. It was planned to move the office from the main building into the gatehouse. Wolcott had been offered a job in Margaretville/Arkville and will move his family there.

Finances:

The Open Space was very active, but there had been set-backs such as reduced participation by Ohashi and AA, although an October booking was made for \$15,000. Other problems included the sewage system to be overhauled and no drinking water because of the drought.

Lawsuit

Dai Bosatsu Zendo has instituted a lawsuit against the loggers who have cut down trees indiscriminately.

Drug Rehabilitation

Jay Morris, a counsellor at a drug rehab center will join the fall kessei. He was interested in bringing patients to DBZ for Zen lifestyle training. It is thought DBZ could handle a maximum of 6 detoxed patients at a time as students.

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Kessei

It was decided that the word "kessei" would not be used as from 1992, but rather an appropriate English-language term to describe the annual retreat or training periods.

b) New York Zendo

Yasuko Shimano reported on New York Zendo. The practice was strong and attendance steady. There were financial problems with fewer dues-paying members than the previous year, and with about 25 members three months behind with their dues. However, the operating account showed a balance of \$3,500. It was decided that a letter be sent to those members.

c) Zen Studies Society Endowment Fund

Yasuko Shimano reported that on August 15, Treasury notes would become due and that with reinvestment at lower interest rates, income would be about \$6,000 less per year.

Dharma Foundation

Eido Roshi presented his plans for the establishment of a Foundation separate from the Zen Studies Society. To be called The Dharma Foundation, its purpose could be educational, rather than religious, to facilitate fund raising. Money raised could be used to fund programs at New York Zendo, Dai Bosatsu Zendo as well as other zendos. Robert Greene advised that the formation of such a foundation was technically possible and said that he would check into the 501(c)(3) status of the Zen Studies Society. Jean Bankier suggested that in the meantime a purpose and mission statement be prepared. It was unanimously decided to go ahead with the establishment of The Dharma Foundation.

ByLaws

The bylaws of the Zen Studies Society were being reviewed by a committee consisting of Eido Roshi, Bernard Spitz, Jean Bankier and Willem Pretorius, working in conjunction with lawyer Robert Greene. A final draft would be presented at the annual meeting in 1992 for approval by the Board.

Adjournment

There being no new business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M., followed by dinner at Shinbashi Restaurant, hosted by New York Zendo.

Respectfully submitted,

Willem J. Pretorius
Secretary