

## **Annual General Meeting**

### **Buddhist Meditation Society of Northern British Columbia**

**Tuesday May 16, 2006, 9 p.m. Spruce Capitol Building**

**In attendance: Larry Steele, Graham, Edward Dobrowolski, Judith Johnson, John DeGrace**

#### **Apologies: Ken Bilski**

- 1) Judith accepted appointment as secretary for the meeting
- 1.1) The minutes for last years AGM were approved unanimously. Please note that the constitution, agenda and minutes are now routinely posted in the website archives. You may always review this material ahead of time before meetings.
- 2) Matters arising from last year's minutes. There were no outstanding matters.
- 3) Treasurers report 2005/2006: John DeGrace. Our financial position has improved by about \$1,000 in spite of increased rent. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously. Ken Bilski will complete the tax return in September.
- 4) President's report: Edward Dobrowolski. Edward provided a summary of the year's activities, pointing out that it has been a very active year.
- 5) Change Your Mind Day 2006: Judith Johnson. This event has been moved to the Civic Center. A \$200 refreshment budget was unanimously approved.
- 6) Election of Officers for 2006/2007. The following officers were elected by acclamation: Edward (President), Ken Bilski (Treasurer), John DeGrace (Assistant to the treasurer), Judith (Newsletter Editor), Larry (Assistant Newsletter Editor).
- 7) General discussion of society involvement in activities and obtaining approval for spending: We will seek Ken's input as treasurer re: opening separate bank accounts for special projects like Change Your Mind Day.
- 8) Zen and Vipassana plans for the next year

Second Zen sitting group. There is a second group sitting on Friday mornings until Mid June. We will reevaluate the need for this in September.

Judith may be offering Zen practice at the jail starting in September.

We will continue our Sunday morning zazenkai once a month.

Retreats: Zen two day zazen-kai with Eshin: October (organized by Edward), and April (organized by Larry)

Vipassana: 1 day retreat in June in our downtown location, 3 day retreat in November led by Adrienne Ross, both organized by John DeGrace.

#### 9) Website report

The website has been updated. There is a steady trickle of email inquiries through the site (1-2 a month). All directors may access the email lists through the [buddhistinfo@hotmail.com](mailto:buddhistinfo@hotmail.com) address, currently Judith, Edward and John have the password. A photo gallery is being added. A \$200 honorarium was unanimously approved for the webmaster.

Directors are reminded to update the webmaster when they leave for extended periods, return after an absence, or change their contact information. It is important that people trying to start practice are able to find us.

#### 10) Other Business

- i. We agreed that we will lock up the cash in the cash box after every event, and it will be removed and deposited on a regular basis by the treasurer or the treasurer's assistant.
- ii. We now have a file box for recording our donations. At year end someone will need to add up cash donations, issue and mail tax receipts. This will cut down on the number of receipts that we need to issue, while encouraging donations.
- iii. There are forms for membership applications in the top right desk drawer. Please encourage new members to fill these out as it will assist Ken in maintaining the membership list that we are legally required to maintain.
- iv. Judith will provide Larry with the caretaker info for the Willows, and he will see about moving our white cupboard and returning the keys.
- v. We agreed to record all planned use of our downtown location in the calendar so that we don't create conflicts between ourselves.