

Subud Portland General Business Meeting
October 10, 2021; 12:00 pm
Facilitator: Morris McClellan
Note Taker: Marilyn Schirk

Present: Morris and Leana McClellan, Maria Baker, Reynold Orchard, Latham Stack, Philip Lindstrom, Alexandra Boyer, Mira Spies, Hariana Chilstrom, Rochmanna Miller, Susannah Lints, Chris Wagner, Lusijah Marx, Leonard Dixon, Jackie Magner, and Marilyn Schirk

Action Items:

- Regular monitoring of cracks and roof string system in east latihan room
- Consult with several Center members (see below) on roof risk question - Morris
- Consider hiring Structural Engineer to assess roof risk level - Council
- Establish a plan for response to snow/ice storms – Council

UPDATE: Rebecca spoke with James Sulser at Grummel Engineering on October 26, 2021. He recalled the roof project, and re-visited the photos from his site visit. His take on the urgency of undertaking this project was that if the building survived last February's snow/ice storm intact, then it is "stronger than it might look" and that he had not noted any imminent concerns from the site visit, therefore no red flags. So he is in agreement that waiting for a year or so would be safe, in his opinion. He promised that the extra work on structural that the City requires for permitting will be handled expediently by Grummel.

1. Meeting convened at 12:00 pm. Motion/second (Maria/Mo) to approve Center Meeting minutes of May 16, 2021; Unanimous approval.

2. Susila Dharma Report - Marilyn

The total proceeds of the 2021 Subud Portland/SD USA Matching Fund was \$14,690. Deepest thanks to the Center and all Donors to the Fund this year. The money will be used to fund the project grants for 2022. Watch for your electronic copy of *Quarantine Cuisine: A Virtual Cookbook* in the coming week. Deepest thanks to all for helping to keep this noble tradition alive here in Portland.

3. Financial Report - Morris

Our account totals:

General checking: \$6,043
Capital account: \$6,161
Savings account: \$7,500
Pay-Pal account: \$ 873

4. Discussion Regarding Roof Repair Project - Latham and Morris

In earlier discussions, it was agreed that the roof repair project on the east latihan room could be delayed for a year. Several members raised the question of whether we should reconsider this delay. Latham reviewed several of the roof/wall problems: Some of the rafters are undersized and compromised, there is a "dent" in the south facing side of the roof, there are some cracks in the wall under the roof, etc. Approximately 2 years ago, Latham installed a string network in the east latihan room that was intended to show significant movement in the wall over time. Although it has been some time since he has checked the strings, he reported that earlier checks revealed little to no movement in the wall. In his opinion, it would take something like a heavy snowfall or earthquake to cause the roof to fail. Several problems make an earlier start to the repair difficult - supply and labor shortages have driven prices very high; necessary permits have to be used within a particular window of time, etc. He asked members to begin measuring the strings again every month.

Morris reported that the Center can get a significant portion of the funds it needs for repair of the roof from Subud USA at no interest, and Phillip confirmed that SUSA is ready to receive a proposal. This would be in addition to the funds available from SPNW. Susannah noted that it would be a good time to do repairs at the House while our rentals and member usage are low due to Covid.

Due to a sense of urgency in the group to re-examine our decision to delay the roof repair, several steps will be taken:

- strings and wall cracks will be monitored for movement in the walls
- Morris will look for any existing structural engineer reports that may have been prepared during earlier roof work

- Morris will consult with Marius, Emile, Samuel and Latham regarding the project and get recommendations for a structural engineering firm that we could use to do an assessment of the risk of roof/wall failure

- We will make a plan to remove snow in the event of a heavy snowfall

A motion was made and seconded (Reynold/Mira) to authorize the Council members (Morris, Rebecca, and Maria) to approve payment of a reasonably priced fee to hire a professional structural engineer to do a risk assessment of the roof/wall structure in the east latihan room if they find it to be necessary to do so. (See Update above.)

Rochmanna asked about earthquake safeguards and insurance on the structure for earthquakes. Reynold noted that retro-fitting for earthquakes is a very expensive and major undertaking, but that we could begin by getting a free estimate.

Chris brought attention to gutter repairs that also need to be done on the house.

5. Rentals - Nirel

Nirel was not present, but Morris reported that the "Swami" continues to be a consistent renter who is paying a very helpful rental fee. Colette is not ready to resume renting, but several party rentals are scheduled at the house.

6. Landscaping - Susannah and Chris

Susannah, Chris and Fred Suter have volunteered to lead a clean-up effort around the front of the Subud house. The council will be making a list of priorities to restore the beauty and safety of our exterior (wobbly hand railing on front steps will be repaired (Done by Marius!). Already, changes in our entrance and front area are helping improve the look of the House. Morris will work with the team to work out a regular schedule for their work to be done. Thanks so much to this team for all of their concern and work. More information will be coming on how to help out and get involved.

7. Community Meeting - Lusijah

Lusijah reported that the Community Meeting planned and led by her and Wendy on Sept. 26 was well received, and they would like to schedule a future meeting. There was enthusiastic and general support for the idea. It will be a zoom meeting on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 12:00. More details later.

8. PNW Helpers Report - Leonard

Leonard reported that the PNW Helpers are planning on doing a replacement zoom meeting in November for the traditional Menucha Gathering this year. A survey was sent out soliciting opinions on various format options. More information to follow.

9. SPDX Meeting Schedule

It was requested that the Center return to its previous meeting pattern of alternating monthly meetings between a Center Business Meeting and a Circle Meeting with a check-in format. Morris expressed support for this suggestion. (The Community Meeting will take the place of the Circle Meeting in November.)

