

Betsuin Board Bullets
September 06, 2012 Betsuin Board of Directors Meeting
by Joyce Iwasaki

The intent of the Betsuin Board Bullets is to highlight Board actions, decisions, special events and projects. Please contact the Betsuin board officers, directors, or the ministers for more details on any item.

The Sangha Membership was invited to attend the September Board Meeting to hear the presentation from the Board Infrastructure Committee regarding the Annex Building options. Notification of this opportunity was mailed to the Betsuin Membership.

Guests attending the Board Meeting (as per the guest sign in sheet): Kenji Akahoshi, Roy Batchelor, Casey Ching, Dina Hayamizu, Sus Ikeda, Ray Matsumoto, Bob Miyahara, Cara Miyasaki, Robert Okamoto, Henry Yamate.

o **Correspondence**

The Betsuin received an appreciation letter from Reverend Umezu, BCA Bishop, thanking the Sangha for coordinating the details with three sponsoring entities (Hompa Hongwanji of Hawaii, Buddhist Churches of America (BCA), and the San Jose Betsuin) for Reverend Tsumura's funeral which took place on August 10th at the San Jose Betsuin.

A thank you letter from the Morgan Hill Howakai was received for their portion of the Obon funds.

o **Eagle Scout Fence Restoration Project Presentation** by Casey Ching

Casey Ching's Eagle Scout project of restoring the fence on the north side of the Betsuin Office has been completed and cost came in under budget. Casey presented a written report with photos to the Board members. He also gave an oral report of the process, what issues he encountered and the personal value he gained from this project. As per the agreement, the Board and Casey will split the total cost the project (50/50). The total cost of the project materials is \$977.91.

o **Infrastructure Committee Presentation** by Ruth Shikada

The Infrastructure Committee prepared and presented to Board and the guests four options for the Annex Building Project.

The comprehensive information and presentation included opportunities and challenges of each option as well as estimated costs.

The committee received questions and comments during this presentation.

A motion was carried (see below) to recommend Option Two as the direction to move forward.

The Sangha Membership is invited to attend an informational meeting about this project, hear background information and research, and to have an opportunity comments as well as ask questions. This meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 22nd at 9:00 am in the multipurpose room.

The Infrastructure Committee members are: Janice Doi, Bud Mine, Tom Nishikawa, Reverend Sakamoto (advisor), Ruth Shikada, (chair), Lonnie Wilson.

- o **Motions**

A motion was made by Roy Yamanouchi and seconded by Todd Tsudama to accept the notes from the August 2012 Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Steve Ichinaga and seconded by Al Hironaga to pave a small section on the 6th Street Property selecting one of three vendor estimates not exceeding \$18,000. The motion was carried by majority vote.

A motion was made by Bud Mine and seconded by Steve Ichinaga to recommend Option Two (seismic retrofit and building upgrade) for the annex building. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ruth Shikada and seconded by Todd Tsudama to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

- o **Request for Additional Concrete Surface on the Sixth Street Property** from Jim McClure

As per a Board request for Jim McClure, Obon Chair, to obtain two additional bids to place concrete on a small section on the 6th Street Property for safety and efficient usage, the Board now had three bids for comparison. With Board approval (see motion above), Jim is able to complete this process.

- o **New Video Camera for the Hondo Report** by Roy Batchelor

Though the video camera was checked before Reverend Tsumura's funeral, problems arose that day. A personal camera was set up so the guests in the annex could view the service on the large screen. The issues were researched and a new, used camera was bought on eBay and the cost (\$65.00) was covered by a donation from Al Hironaga. After this purchase, it was discovered that the original camera was probably not the problem but the cables seemed to have been broken internally. The cables were then dismantled and then reattached and things seem to be working properly now. Both the original and the new (used) camera are now available for use.

- o **Ministers' Report**

The ministers extend their appreciation to the Betsuin Sangha for all the help with the funeral service for Reverend Tsumura.

Reverend Kuwahara from the Jodo Shinshu Center brought ministers in the IMOP (International Ministers Orientation Program) to attend and participate in the September 02nd Betsuin service. These ministers are from Japan and are exploring the possibilities of becoming overseas ministers. They are in the US for a two and a half month orientation/ education program. The ministers took part in chanting in the Onaijin during our service which gave our members an opportunity to experience how a formal service at the Hongwanji would sound.

- o **Dana Club Report** by Al Hironaga

The members of the Dana Club continue to help sort and box food at the Second harvest Food Bank. If you are interested in helping, please contact Al Hironaga by leaving your name and contact info in the Betsuin Office.

In August, Dana Club members prepared over 180 spam omusubi for the Caring4Chris Golf Tournament golfers' goodie bags. This tournament raised funds for Chris Tsuji who is challenged with the effects of Moyamoya disease and a stroke.

- **EcoSangha Report** by Al Hironaga

The Betsuin EcoSangha Group continues to collect athletic shoes for the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe recycling drive. The goal is to collect another 500 pairs of athletic shoes, which will then be shipped to the Nike facility where the various shoe parts are ground up to make padding for tracks, athletic fields and indoor gyms. The Betsuin Office is the collection point for athletic shoe donations.