

SOA Board Meeting
January 17, 2008; Thursday
6 – 9 pm
426 Day Street

Present: Sandra B, Eva T., Rob K, Stephen B., Shin A., Connie B., Ito
Present via SKYPE: David F., Michael T.
Convened: 6:25pm

- I. Assignment of Roles: recorder of minutes – Connie B.; timekeeper Sandra B.; facilitator – Eva T.
- II. Minutes of August 4, 2007; two corrections submitted to clarify treasurer job description submitted and that fund accounting was reviewed and approved by the treasurer. Corrections approved. Minutes approved unanimously.
- III. Reports
 - A. Finance reports – Sandra
 - i. Finance report for 2007- Sandra reported \$15,917 in the bank as cash available; fund accounting shows that membership dues do cover operating expenses and that membership due payments are up in 2007 as a result of the membership drive. Publications show the \$800 copyright payment from the French. The check for the database project to Dan has not been cashed. Sandra discussed that costs for publications for the website and for credit cards have increased each year. Discussion followed on ways to control expenses, such as Pay Pal. Sandra proposed a discussion with Pac Shin on sharing the expenses related to payment via credit cards as this is an expense directly related to the January Kangeiko. Proposal passed. ACTION ITEM: Sandra to discuss with Pac Shin and report back in March 2008.
 - ii. Budget for 2008 & board vote requested to approve 2008 budget – Budget for 2008 was presented and is very similar to 2007. Budget passed.
 - B. NTC report on 2007 activities by Shin. Shin presented 4 major activities for 2007. The first was the decision as announced in the recent Body Dialogue on examiner qualifications for Shodan and below. The second was the diploma signatures with a change to having the seated examiners as signers with the co-founders of Shintaido of America as permanent signatures. The third item was the subcommittee on the process to submit requests for changes to the curriculum. The fourth activity was the creation of NTC archives on the server. Rob Kedoin assisted Shin so that curriculum, videos and discussion about curriculum are on-line to NTC members.
 - C. Membership report for 2007 by Connie. Discussion on members who have not paid their 2007 SOA dues. ACTION ITEMS: Michael T. reports Gianni is now a European member and can be removed from the SOA

website. Stephen B. will follow up with 2 members. Ito will check on one member in LA. Connie will prepare letter to let members know that dues are not current and their names/emails will be removed from the SOA website.

IV. New Business

A. Board members; officers and ISF Rep – discussion by all board

- i. Resignations of board members – Eva T. and Sandra B. are resigning from the SOA board. Gratitude and appreciate was expressed for their many years of contributions and work for SOA. Connie B. is stepping down as SOA President and will remain on the SOA board for an interim one year. Connie will continue as the SOA ISF Rep for the meeting in April and volunteered to do SOA membership drive for 2008.
- ii. Recruitment of new board members – Byron Russell was nominated by Michael for the board. Stephen B. will ask a Shintaido Practitioner from the SNE area. The position of treasurer is open and has specific skills needed for accounting and use of software.
- iii. Election of officers
Stephen was nominated for President and Rob was nominated for Vice-President. Election by the current SOA board was unanimous.
- iv. Plan for vote by SOA membership – ACTION ITEM: A slate of board officers will be presented via email to the SOA membership by Feb 08, giving 1 month for responses from the membership to reject the slate or nominate additional board members.

B. ISF report by Connie. The ISF board began meeting December 12th. The current topic is the position of ISF officer manager. The ISF board will meet July 1 & 2, 2008 in Italy. Discussion followed on payment of ISF dues for multiple years, if members have not been paying annually. The SOA board discussed if the action of paying just the 2008 dues would give ISF the message that ISF must be consistently active in between international events. Final agreement was that SOA would provide via the web/bookstore the ability to pay ISF dues for 2005, 06, 07 & 08. Individuals attending the 2008 event in Italy for exams or meetings will need to pay for multiple years. Rob K will assist putting the link on the web/bookstore. Connie will be notifying members to pay ISF dues. Rob K. is the American contact for the event and will explore means for individuals to pay event registration via one transaction. Currently 11 people from America are expected to attend in July 2008.

C. Proposal that paid advertisements be accepted for Body Dialogue by Stephen. Stephen clarified that SOA events would not be paying and that

the proposal was for Shintaido members to submit a business card size ads for \$60 for the year's publications. Proposal passed unanimously.

- D.** Proposal that the online policy requiring SOA membership for taking exams and to get a discount be reword to include attendance at events by Stephen. Stephen clarified he was seeking consensus from the board that every active Shintaido practitioner join SOA. Stephen also clarified that events would distinguish first time attendees, family members, non-participants as not having SOA membership apply. A proposal was made that events offer a discount of \$40, which equals SOA membership, so joining SOA is cost effective. Proposal passed. SOA board gave approval to Stephen to begin a region-by-region discussion on promoting SOA membership.

SOA members agreed to extend the meeting by 30 minutes to conclude business.

V. Old Business

- A.** Database onto SOA server; status update by Rob. Rob reported no progress on the database since receiving the handoff from Dan. Rob requested a deadline and a person who would keep him on the task. ACTION ITEM: Stephen agreed to be the reminder to keep Rob on task once Rob produces the schedule.
- B.** Kenjutsu DVD; status update by Ito. Ito reported that the DVD should be done by end of February 2008.
- C.** Ito report on Taimyo – Ito requested to give report at Kangeiko.
- D.** Bojutsu DVD; status update by Shin and David.
 - i.** If SOA is hired by BAB Japan to produce the English version, we don't own the contents of the video. We cannot edit or use the clip for other purposes. Discussion followed and the SOA board understood the limits since purchasing the copyright would be too expensive. SOA would not be able to put any portion of the DVD on the website.
 - ii.** The cost of producing the English version – David estimated costs of \$300-400 cash. David is volunteering his professional time to do the text.
 - iii.** The number of copies we want to keep. Discussion followed that our work is valuable. David agreed to do full cost estimate so the SOA board could see the actual costs if volunteer work was not being offered. This will guide the number of copies to be requested. Current estimates were for 100. The SOA board understood that getting copies would be a one-time arrangement. ACTION ITEM: David agreed to follow up by the end of February with the SOA board on costs and recommendations on the number of copies.

9:30 pm Adjourn