

Minutes SOA Board meeting 22 December 2019 11am West coast time via SKYPE

Present: Connie, Shin, Nancy, David, Michael T., HF Ito

Absent: Herve, Brad, Rob K.

I. Welcome and review of agenda

II. SOA Website

- A. Rob K report – Group reviewed his quarterly report from 19 Sept to 20 Dec 2019. There was a 27% drop in visit to the website, mostly reflecting the time Rob stepped away from being webmaster. Connie reported that she and Rob K. have spoken, and clearer communication has occurred with plans for 2020 to include phone calls between Connie and Rob K every 2 months or so and continued efforts to project the administrative work efforts. Improvements completed are the addition of a platform to have Bruno do English to French translation that are especially important for the Quebec group. The “placed to practice” page has been completed. The next changes are putting up information on the Joe Z. memorial scholarship, the NTC, additions to bookstore and the translation by Bruno of Mark Bannon’s article on “Notes on Training – Kaishoken”. Instagram has grown from 18 to 36 followers.

B. Calendar of articles:

Joe Z. Memorial Scholarship fund- by Connie – target first week of January

ESC report by Mark Bannon and Connie Borden – target mid-January

“Freedom of Voice” by David F. submitted recently – timeline to be set

Pending submission:

Quebec report by Mark Bannon and Dan Raddock

Article by Brad Larson

Article by Lee Ordemann

Tenshingos applications as a bridge between Shintaido Karate and Shintaido – David F. and also could be with Shin and Gianni.

Article by Jim Sterling

Upcoming articles:

Pac Shin Kangeiko 2020 – Connie to ask Derk to take the lead on writing (Timeline mid-Feb 2020)

Boh Workshop in Lyon France by Rob Gaston. He will be attending the first weekend in April. Timeline early May. SOA board was enthusiastic to hear of Rob G.’s plans!!

Teaching Wakama at 3rd Global Conference on End of Life being held in Lisbon, Portugal the first weekend of April. Timeline mid-May 2020.

- C. **Roles of editor of Body Dialogue** transition to be shared by Bruno Bernier (work press and photos) and Jim Sterling (English editor)– Stephen doing handoff December 23rd.
- D. **Bookstore additions** – Rob K. plans this for his next steps (Jan/Feb 2020). SOA board also agreed to remove items labeled “out of stock”. **Action item:** Connie to list items, have Shin review and then submit to Rob K. Timeline Jan/Feb 2020.

III. Joe Z. Memorial Scholarship Fund

Connie reviewed the revised application. SOA board agreed on timeline of opening applications 1 January 2020 and deadline to submit applications by 1 June 2020. Selected candidates will be notified by 30 June 2020 by email. **Action item:** Connie to give Rob K. and Brad the announcement and application for both Website and MailChimp announcements. Timeline first week of January 2020.

IV. Membership drive for 2020

SOA board agreed to have SOA membership drive start 1 March 2020. Nancy will have membership letter by 11 January 2020. **Action items:** Connie to ask Rob K. and Pierre P (of ISP) to discuss if it is possible and how much work it would take to have ISP link on SOA website. SOA website and Mailchimp announcement 1 March 2020. Reminder 1 May. Target to end membership drive June 2020. Connie to also follow up with Brad on transition of MailChimp to Herve.

V. Business Report for 2019

SOA board accepted business report for 2019 as written. **Action item:** Connie to submit to Rob K. for posting along with SOA minutes with timeline target of before 30 December.

VI. Budget and spending priorities for 2020

Connie presented the updated proposed budget for 2020 with additions from last weeks NTC/SOA joint meeting. Discussion followed:

A. Branding

Group discussed and agreed the value of having clear messages for newcomers to Shintaido. That it is important to have common ways to talk about what we do and how to know what to say to others. Nancy, David, Shin and Connie are prepared to do the work over the next year. Action items: Connie to confirm with Brad and Herve on their interest. Connie to speak further with Robert F. on his interest as well as cost. Connie forecast that the March meeting could be primarily focused on this topic.

B. Scholarship for any SOA member to attend an event outside of their region. Regions are currently identified as Quebec, SNE that includes to Wash D.C., and Pac Shin that includes the West Coast. The available funds are \$400. Currently the scholarship could be either \$400 for one person or \$200 for two people. Decisions will be made as applications are submitted. SOA board will be the one to make these decisions.

C. SOA board agreed to include a \$200 stipend to anyone from Assistant and above to help support classes for people with cancer or cancer survivors, chronic disease, progressive neurological illnesses, for seniors or for the youth. The fledging teachers' group could be a resource for people to develop and implement their teaching plans and outreach.

D. Support for 2021 – agreed the \$1500 for 2021 budget

E. Photo/video recording – Shin discussed further about Kangeiko 2020 and the value to have the event recorded. Connie discussed that Mike Sheets has volunteered given his limitations in mobility (surgery upcoming early Feb 2020). Shin agreed on this plan for 2020 and to have the \$1000 put into the 2021 budget.

Budget approved for 2020 as outlined above.

VII. Teacher's group facilitated by Lee S.

Nancy spoke about the Teacher group (replacing the former group leaders' group) by Lee Seaman with Brad, Rob K., and Nancy as interested parties. This group could be the source of mentoring with scholarship recipients for 2020 as well as people interested in developing targeted classes with the SOA stipend. Action item: have on the agenda for March for updates.

VIII. Updates

- A. Shin reports Pac Shin with Ito-sensei teaching with be 18 & 19 January 2020 with 3 keiko and exams. An advanced workshop with 2 keiko will be offered 20 January. This will be followed by 8 & 9 February 2020 Advanced workshop with 3 keiko. Advanced workshops will be open to Graduate/Shodan and above.
- B. SF Bay Area keikos: Shin continues to teach on Saturday and is now indoors. Connie teaches selective Tuesday nights with Taimyo/meditation. Mike has two classes in the early morning. Rob G. has an outside Saturday Boh class, weather permitting. Sunday collegial keiko occurs at Marin Academy.
- C. Nancy reports SNE is working on a new "leaderless" group model with potentially Mary, Brad and Roger in a shared position. Connie offered to be a mentor to this group if there is a perceived benefit. Nancy and MT report Kangeiko is being planned for February that will include exams.
- D. David reports remarkable success being on tour with Amanda Palmer and presenting Shintaido through her recommendation while on tour in the UK. While none of these towns have a local class there has been interest in attending workshops. David has posted his efforts on Facebook and submitted an article to SOA. David also reports the new class for kids is getting momentum and the Pilsen group continues with 5 – 6 people. David plans to try again for a Prague class. David is planning a May workshop with outside instructors (more to follow).
- E. HF Ito reports he will travel to the South of France at the end of December to teach Kenjutsu to non-Shintaido practitioners.
- F. FYI – prior meeting announced that Rob Kedoin will be teaching in Quebec in March 2020.

- IX. Next meeting – NOTE new time of 11am West Coast, 2pm East Coast, 8pm European time**
22 March
21 June
Propose 20 September & 20 December
Board agreed once a year NTC/SOA joint meeting is beneficial – propose 13 December.

Respectfully submitted by
 Connie Borden
 12/22/19