

Minutes SOA Board meeting 20 September 2020 11am West Coast time via SKYPE

Present: Connie, Shin, Michael T., David, Herve, Brad, Nancy

Absent: HF Ito, Rob K.

I. Welcome

Connie welcomed everyone, no updates to the agenda

II. SOA Website report

Rob Kedoin submitted a written report. However the chair did not receive this until after the meeting which was too late to review at the meeting.

III. Financial report

Connie thanked Brad for the update that anonymous donation of \$1000 for the Joe Z. Memorial Fund was received for 2020. This brings a donation of \$2000 for the first two years with a pledge of three more years to total \$5000.

Connie reviewed the membership that now totals 39 paying members. Goal had been 45 members for 2020. SOA is predicted to have a net loss of \$718 for 2020; the budget for 2020 had projected a net loss of close to \$5000 as several projects had been planned that were postponed or cancelled given the COVID pandemic.

Connie requested members think about 2021 budget and items such as financial support for Jan/Feb Kangeiko; photographer needs; or general scholarships. This will be discussed and budget for 2021 approved at the 13 December 2020 meeting.

Nancy Billias made a proposal that future SOA and joint SOA/NTC meetings be via ZOOM. Seconded by Brad. Pros for keeping SKYPE is that everyone is familiar with SKYPE and it is like a phone call that a person answers to join meeting. Pros for ZOOM is better use of video, better audio; and security concerns have been addressed by ZOOM//Con - it does require a more active behavior to join ZOOM via a link.

Motion passed; no objections; no abstains.

Action Item: Connie to send ZOOM links for future meetings.

IV. Updates

A. SOA Videos

Connie reported that Jim, Sarah B., and Rob K. are working on SOA Videos and You Tube.

Jim and Sarah posted the clips from Kangeiko 2020 to SOA You Tube on 9/4/2020 with an article on the SOA website. Hits to SOA You Tube are 90 hits for Ito's talk in February 2020 and 28/25/27 hits for the three lectures done by HF Ito during Quebec 2019 workshop.

Next: developing clips from the video footage done in Summer 2019 and then in September 2019 in Quebec City. Still to be planned: SNE. Connie asked Brad and Nancy for SNE preferences which can include recording via ZOOM followed by editing by Sarah B. and posting to YouTube by Sarah B.

David volunteers to share some videos he has developed. Shin as chair of NTC agrees for NTC to review these videos. Once approved the process is to share the videos with Sarah Baker for posting the SOA YouTube Channel.

Action Item: David to submit videos to Shin and NTC. Once approved to post to SOA YouTube Channel.

B. Branding

Connie reported that the SOA branding: Shintaido – Opening to life was shared with SOA instructors via email with a ZOOM link by the subcommittee and the written document. A few responses have been received and shared with the board. So far comments have been positive with additional reflections on the message. SOA board members do not report any additional comments that have been received personally. David predicts this is an ongoing process. (See update below for PacShin Kangeiko with theme: Shintaido - Opening to Life.)

Connie reports that Rob K. and Robert Friedman are collaborating on the changes for the SOA home page on the website.

Next step: Evaluate if current SOA logo should remain or be changed. This could be a next step because of the branding work. David, Herve, Shin and Connie volunteer to be on a subcommittee to 1) determine if a change is needed and 2) the process to make a change; including how to solicit ideas and how to make decisions on the new logo.

Action Item: Connie to send email to subcommittee to expand on next steps.

C. Zoom

SOA Zoom account: Connie reports that Rob G., Sandra, and Connie teach via ZOOM on Sunday mornings with 10 -14 people from SF Bay Area, LA, Vermont, and UK. This group grew out of events with Taimyo and the UK Daienshu. Two new people did come to one class, one time however have not returned.

D. Teachers group

Nancy presented the work on soft-hand Shintaido developed by Lee Seaman and Nancy. There are 5 weeks of curriculum that could then be expanded into a 10-week program. Nancy asked about both input from SOA board members as well as next steps to share. Shin as NTC chair reflects on prior group leaders work on discussing how to teach and how to set up classes. Shin does not believe that NTC needs to approve the curriculum. He does agree that to share this curriculum on 18 October with the joint SOA Board and NTC meeting would be useful. Shin would suggest this curriculum be on the SOA website perhaps with an educational resource for teacher's section.

Brad sees this curriculum as a possible resource for his teaching project and is willing to work with Lee S. and Nancy on both it is use and the outcomes.

Nancy shared that current teaching on ZOOM for her Philosophy class that is one-half in person and one-half on line is that students need a lot of repetition of content; that to be mindful to go slowly and the need to provide follow-up with written materials.

Herve reflected that online content need to have both the inspirational content often from the talks/lectures and the technical content of teaching the body movement.

Action Item: Nancy and Lee to share on 18 October at the joint NTC and SOA board meeting. Discussion on a SOA teachers resource page on the SOA website will need to be discussed with Rob. K.

V. **Creative use of \$1000**

David presented his continued interest in developing audio/Podcast materials. He has two steps: Workflow and Distribution. Workflow: the opening and ending of the podcast uses

the same music. David reads from the Shintaido book. The distribution is to be planned. How to get it out to people. Connie suggested to contact Sarah B. for putting audio on The SOA YouTube site. If others learn more about Podcasts, they are invited to share ideas. Connie asked the board if audio/podcasts were of interest and there was agreement to proceed. Nancy reflected on the need to have content into French for Quebec practitioners. David reflected future podcast could be interviews and working with Derk. Connie suggested a topic could be to interview Derk about the interface of music, Shintaido and body movement.

Action Item:

David to develop a pilot. This will tell David how much time this project takes and test for content. Once the pilot has been done, then David will have a financial request for the SOA board. Herve to see who within the Quebec group might be the person to do audio in French.

VI. Updates

SNE

Brad reports he has been approached to submit a proposal to teach Shintaido on the Boston Harbor Islands and Public Housing; this could be a paid activity. The goal is to have a way for the public to remain connected to nature during the winter. Michael T. reported 4 people did keiko this morning.

PacShin

Shin announced that PacShin Kangeiko will be via ZOOM with one-hour keiko on 16 -17 January 2020 and on Saturday 23 January 2020.

The practice will be Shintaido.

The guest instructors will be Gianni and Margaret Guay

The Theme is: Shintaido – Opening to Life

Organizers are: Shin as Director of Instruction; Gasshuku Manager Derk and Treasurer Cheryl.

Czech Republic

David reports a workshop for 9-10-11 October with participants camping and all keiko outdoors. He is also doing a presentation for Veggie Fest on 27 September. He is considering offering year-round outdoor keiko this coming year given that gyms are not available.

Quebec

Herve reports that 12-13 September was the Quebec City Gasshuku with HF Ito teaching via ZOOM. These were two-hour keiko with guest Minagawa Sensei teaching Diamond Eight Sei and Dai. Carole B. was the organizer. There were 12 participants.

VII. Next meeting (s) via ZOOM

18 October 2020 Joint SOA Board and SOA NTC; 11am West Coast//2pm East Coast//8pm Europe - Agenda: 1) Shodan and Nidan Curriculum; jurisdiction with ITEC 2) Lee S. and Nancy B. will share the Soft hand curriculum

6 December 2020 Joint SOA board and SOA NTC

1) Joint planning of identified needs for 2021 to support keiko and instructors in the US and Canada

13 December 2020 SOA board

- 1) Budget for 2021**
- 2) Branding: Subcommittee on Logo & Branding and Website**

Action items:

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Minutes respectfully

Submitted by

Connie Borden

20 September 2020