

SOA Board meeting – 18 December 11am to 12noon West Coast time via ZOOM

Present: Connie, Shin, MT, David, Nancy

Absent: Brad, Herve

Excused with known absence: HF Ito (traveling), Rob K. (personal reason)

Overview of Agenda

SOA Podcast

SOA Website

SOA 2023 Budget

I. SOA Podcast

Written Report on 2022 and plans for 2023 provided to the board. David reports he plans to contact the 6 confirmed speakers for interviews in 2023. Connie reminded the group on 5 February for 2023 Podcast Launch Party -11am West Coast, 2pm East Coast, 7pm UK, 8pm Europe. Bill Burtis, Gianni, Stephen Billias, Nancy Billias, Jim Sterling, Bela Breslau are some of the confirmed attendees for 5 February.

II. Website discussion

Connie presented 4 proposals.

1) Proposal is to focus on maintenance to update website in 2023 with a paid position (\$1200). Unanimous approval to add this expense/position in 2023. David has ideas on a possible person. Connie has one person who is interested. Board approved for Connie and David to review the candidates and make the selection.

2) Once the website is current, start a 6 - 9-month process of looking at a new website for 2024. Proposal to have Connie speak with SNE and PacShin on the websites to open the conversation and hear ideas on future structures to the website. After discussion, revised proposal for Connie to hear updates from Nancy/Brad and Shin on discussions from SNE and PacShin on websites. Discussions will move forward from there. Connie to include Rob Kedoin in discussions and board regrets that personal reasons prevented Rob K. from attending today and how Rob K has a speedy recovery.

3) Have SNE and PacShin pilot a new website platform that Brad Larson is using. Then SNE and PacShin can give feedback to SOA. Connie reports that Brad finds the event section of this new platform as especially useful. Outcome: decision deferred until Feb/March when Connie hears from Nancy/Brad and Shin. Board regrets that Brad was absent today to speak more about the platform he is currently using.

4) Proposal that the SOA Board agrees that SNE and PacShin are separate businesses and therefore are responsible for any SNE or PacShin website costs. (Currently Rob Kedoin does the maintenance of websites for SNE and PacShin as well as SOA). Given current knowledge of websites, this is generally agreed upon as a principle. Another option is for one SHINTAIDO website with SNE and PacShin as sections/pages of the overall national website. More follow-up at March meeting.

III. SOA Budget for 2023

Connie reviewed 2022 against proposed budget for 2023. Written document was given to the board. Connie reviewed that given the \$12,000 donation in 2021, the operating loss of minus/negative \$7351 was planned to be an investment in growth of Shintaido keiko in the US and Canada.

A. Items approved in October for 2023 include \$5000 in grants to SOA NTC and to Graduates/Shodan and above. Also approved was the budget for the English publication of Shakunetsu. \$1000 was spent in 2022; \$2,000 budgeted for 2023. Therefore, \$7000 has been approved to be spent in 2023.

Action outcome: Board requested Connie given an update on the status of the Shakunetsu book and that Connie monitor the expenses. Connie to give first update via email after meeting to be held 19 December via ZOOM

B. New items to consider for 2023:

1) \$300 for video editing program. (Total program costs \$600; Sarah Baker requests \$300 to support editing for things such as Boh Workshop, Quebec Workshop, and Sunday ZOOM classes.) **Approved**

2) \$1200 for a part time position to support maintenance and updates to the SOA website. Items include the curriculum and exam pages; the pages on "Who are we?" This is separate from a design of a new website. **Approved**

3) Currently no money is budgeted to be expensed from the Joe Z. Fund. For 2023 the balance of \$3040 is allocated to be spend in 2024 to support Graduate/Shodan and above to travel to the international gasshuku (planned for August 2024). 2023 is the last year to receive donations to the Joe Z. Fund. (a total of \$5000 has been donated over 5 years). **Outcome:** no proposal made at this time to expense funds in 2023.

4) Two items as placeholders: royalty payments and SOA website. **Outcome** – royalty payments keep in budget; SOA website \$500 as possible three-way split with SNE and PacShin removed. (see above discussion)

5) SOA Podcast fundraiser: group considering a fundraiser of \$25 donation and receiving two stickers of Shintaido Jumping Man. Cost to make stickers \$1.50 per sticker plus shipping for costs of \$5. Would generate \$20 profit towards Podcast support. Nancy asked about a logo contest. Shin and David addressed current status and logo contest remains a tabled topic. Outcome: no objections made.

PROPOSAL: to accept 2023 budget as written, minus the \$500 website split with PacShin and SNE. Nancy approved, MT seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Next dates:

26 March Approved. Connie to check with rest of board members via email.

Topics: 2023 Membership letter – Nancy agrees to do the letter. Review Treasurer's report for 2022 to be done with Brad. Approval of SOA grant applicants. Connie to notify SOA members 1 January and bring any applications. Membership drive 1 April to 1 June.

11 June - Plan nomination and election of SOA board members during the month of August 2023

*Minutes respectfully submitted by
Connie Borden - 18 December 2022*