

**Seattle Dances of Universal Peace
Planning Meeting
7/10/24**

Present: Hassan (convener), Elizabeth, Helen (scribe), Phil, Jennifer, Munajat, Martha, Joe, John

Opening Dance: “Every Day I Think as I Wake Up”

Announcements:

July 20, 4:00pm: Park Dance at Meridian Playground.

A September park dance will most likely be on 9/21 or 9/22 (fall equinox).

WWW.Olypeacedances.org now up. Includes Sufi inquirers event plus two dances. Probably will also include regional events too, like Camp Burton.

Wendy Raphaela had first chemo yesterday. She is appreciating phone calls and visits but weak and thin. Good spirits and good boundaries.

Leilah and Bodhi plan to hold two July zikr retreats next year so everyone who wants to come can do so. The one at Trout Lake this year was wonderful, in spite of heat.

Martha noting annual anniversary of David’s passing.

Margaret Lily and Elizabeth are leading a dance in Pt Townsend on 7/21, 3-5pm, in hopes of restarting that circle.

Treasurer’s report:

We have \$4287 in the account. We have had a few minor expenses, ie website renewal. Phil acknowledged those coming back from Trout Lake and appreciated talk with Martha.

Website:

While the Interim Committee was all at Trout Lake, Judith Card who designed our website, notified Helen that our site had been hacked and malware attached, though it hadn’t been activated yet. Judith was periodically monitoring her clients, and she saw this come up during her scan. Helen as local webmaster, with approval of our treasurer, authorized Judith to repair the site. She removed the malware and installed some additional security. We haven’t received her bill yet, but it will be about \$100.

Request for using Seattle PayPal:

Gayan will be in the Puget Sound area in Sept-Oct. (He is also doing residential retreat with Amara early in September.) An informal group is organizing an event for him in early October, and wonders if the Seattle Dances PayPal account could be used for the event. Because the Vashon retreat registration is happening at the same time, we decided to deny the request, due to the extra labor and confusion in the books that could engender. We brainstormed with Munajat other ways for the event to receive electronic payments.

Request for sponsorship of evening with Gayan on 10/4:

Om Culture has been booked for Sat/Sun 10/5 and 10/6. The sponsoring group is looking for a venue for Friday night, 10/4, and wonders if our group might sponsor that evening at 7400 Woodlawn. The sponsoring group would cover the expense and administration, but our insurance policy and agreement with 7400 Woodlawn could cover this occasion. Any of us who wanted to help with set-up or clean-up would be welcomed. The group is also looking at other venues, potentially with Gina Sala.

Some concern was expressed that this event was being organized without prior consultation about timing with us. Amara's retreat was set up in consultation with Elizabeth and thus with our group. But Amara didn't consult with Olympia and her event will conflict with the Olympia dances.

Proposal: Providing that the organizing group takes responsibility for other aspects, we agree to formally sponsor rental of 7400 Woodlawn and use of our insurance policy for a special event with Gayan on 10/4. Costs would be covered by the organizing group. Martha is the spokesperson for 7400, so the organizers can contact Martha if needed.

Vashon/Fall retreat:

Only 18 people replied to Martha's email about adding Thursday, so it was clear the retreat should run the usual Friday night to Sunday lunch time. A flier went out and already reservations for the retreat center are arriving. Local dance leaders and their teams are coming together. Stephen Matin is willing to oversee musician organization, but each session's leaders will select their own musicians. Late-comers will simply get assigned to a session. Details are still a work in progress. Matin is also willing to set up the sound system with support, including a zoom Sat morning for participants to watch only.

Canadian people don't want to cross the border right after the election. Elizabeth and Martha decided to post "Celebrating Resilience and Gratitude" as the theme, which will be relevant whatever the outcome of the election. Gratitude to both Elizabeth and Martha for taking the lead and pulling it together so beautifully.

We did a round of personal check-ins.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, September 11, 4:00pm by zoom

Convener: Phil

Scribe: Helen

Interim Committee: Hassan, Phil, Jennifer.

Closing dance: "We are saying thank you"