

## SOA Board Meeting Notes

Sunday, September 10, 2012

### Skype Phone Meeting

Present: F. Ito, Michael Thompson, Nancy Billias, David Franklin, Rob Gaston, Byron Russell, Shin Aoki, Anne-marie Grandtner (Outreach Committee)

Not Present: Rob Kedoin, Sandra Bengtsson (Treasurer)

1) Topic: Approval of minutes for last meeting (6/3/2012). Approved without objection.

2) Topic: International Gasshuku Report and Financial Report. Discussion deferred. Cheryl and Sandra will be issuing an email report within the next two weeks

3) Topic: Marketing and Outreach. Nancy Billias reported that she has 22 students in her college credit PE Shintaido class and that she is familiar with the protocols necessary for creating a college class. The qualifications for teaching her class were a letter of reference, stating her rank and number of years of study, and a syllabus which included learning objectives and outcomes and a method for documenting what the students have learned. David Franklin pointed out that the situation in Europe is quite different, requiring an advanced degree in Physical Education in order to teach a college PE class and urged us to take advantage of this situation for promoting Shintaido in educational institutions. The possibility for looking into the Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA and YWCA classes was also presented. As an organization, we have a lot of resource materials available for teachers. Byron reported that Anne-marie Grandtner who has professional experience in curriculum and faculty development for colleges has volunteered to assist in developing an outreach program. Nancy Billias will head up a committee with Byron R and Anne-marie G to develop a college outreach program and try to place Shintaido teachers in specific institutions. Nancy will also be looking into developing a coordinated marketing effort.

**ACTION ITEM: Nancy will coordinate committee meetings with Anne-marie and Byron.**

3) Topic: National Gasshuku 2014. The board approved a proposal to have a National Gasshuku in the summer or fall of 2014, and invite Ito Sensei, Michael Sensei, and Minagawa Sensei as examiners for ISC San Dan exams. Ito pointed out that we need to determine the dates quickly in order to reserve the examiners' time.

**ACTION ITEM: Byron will follow-up with Margaret Guay and SNE to determine a date, location and manager for the event.**

4) Topic: Exam preparation E-book. David Franklin presented that he has written a short book on exam preparation with help from Ito Sensei, which he proposed publishing as an E-book with proceeds from any sales going to SOA. The book could also be available without charge, or free with a suggested donation. Shin suggested that in presentation it should be clear that following the recommendations in

the book does not guarantee passing exams, as such complaints have arisen in other places. The focus is more on 'How to enrich your keiko by taking exams.' David was warmly encouraged to continue developing the book and providing it as a resource to the Shintaido community.

5) Topic: Storage locker and bookstore merchandise. Byron reported that Cheryl F, who is in charge of the storage locker for SOA, reported that we are out of Kenko Taiso DVDs and asked if we wanted to reorder. Also, she has informed us that Pacific Shintaido will probably not continue to pay half of the costs for a storage locker. Rob G. volunteered to research storage locker options, to inventory current merchandise, to investigate who owns the rights to bookstore items, and to report this back to the board. He will also look into the possibility of converting sales to online downloads. Ito pointed out that the rights to the Kenko Taiso DVD are owned by David Palmer and we would have to work out an agreement with him.

**ACTION ITEM: Rob G will research merchandise inventory, storage options, and conversion to on-line downloads.**

6) Topic: ISC Board Members. Ito Sensei asked if the board needed to approve a list of representatives to the ISC. Rob G reported that Sandra Bengtsson has volunteered to be on the ISC board, and as SOA Treasurer she can help keep the SOA board updated on ISC events.

**ACTION ITEM: Byron R. will check with Connie Borden (ISC President) on the situation and report back.**

7) Topic: Board Goals for SOA in the coming 2 years. Byron R asked the board members to think about their goals for SOA over the coming 2 years for discussion at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Byron J. Russell, September 14, 2012