

Minutes Joint SOA Board and SOA NTC Meeting

Sunday July 23, 2017 Via SKYPE 11am PST to 12noon PST

Present: Connie, Jim, Shin, Rob G., Sandra, Chris, Brad, Nancy, Michael T., Joe Z., Lee S. and Ito

Absent: Byron, David and Bela

I. SOA Updates

- A. SOA board – Connie announced September 2017 is election of SOA board members. The bylaws have 3 – 5 members elected by the membership. At this time; Nancy, Brad and Connie are willing to be nominated for re-election; awaiting response from David. August 1st, Brad will send an announcement for additional self-nominations via MailChimp. Election of SOA board members will be held in September via email using our MailChimp email list.
- B. Membership letter – Brad announced he just sent the SOA membership letter via MailChimp today July 23, 2017 about 40 minutes before our meeting. This list has 219 recipients and several have bounced/out of date. Connie will send Brad updates for Chris and Rob who report they did not get the email. Lee Seaman and Jim Sterling confirm receiving the email.
- C. SOA website – Brad reports he has outlined the process of upgrading to a WordPress format for the website. He is waiting to hear more from Rob Kedoin as well as asking for other interested volunteers. Lee S. reports she has contacts with individuals for paid tech support if needed.

II. NTC updates

- A. Shin reports there have been two PacShin Kenjutsu keiko in March and today. 8/19 will be a general workshop in the SF Bay Area with Ito-sensei and 8/20 will be the SOA NTC keiko and meeting with Ito-sensei on Kenjutsu. Joe and SNE have had regional workshops that also include Kenjutsu.
- B. 2018 Gasshuku – Joe reports he will discuss on July 30th with SNE about a Sept or Oct 2018 gasshuku that might include exams, including Shodan for Kenjustu. Nancy can update the SOA board on the Sept 10th meeting on any planning.
- C. SOA role in Kenjustu development – Jim requested Shin and Connie send an email to ITEC to explain SOA NTC views the Kenjutsu development as concurrent with development efforts in Europe. **ACTION item:** Jim volunteered to draft the email. Approved.

III. ITEC/ISC updates

- A. ITEC – Jim reports ITEC bylaws have been completed and are part of the ISC bylaws distributed by Georg via email. Jim encourages everyone to read them, comment and participate in having people self-nominate for the ISC board.
- B. ISC – Chris reports the ISC bylaws are done and ready for comments. He requests everyone review the email for timelines. Chris believes there will be 2 members nominated by each region and 4 members elected 'at large'.
- C. Ito thanks Jim for his work on ITEC bylaws. He suggests Georg's email be forwarded to SOA instructors. He also suggests SOA board support Lee Ordemann's interest in

continuing with ISC and have a role on the SOA board. **ACTION ITEM:** Connie will discuss with Lee Ordemann and the SOA board.

- IV. Lee Seaman – Lee reports she continues to teach “Soft” or “Tai Chi” Shintaido with a regular group of people aged 50+ who wish to learn to age well. She thanks the Shintaido community for their ongoing support for her and John.

- V. Ito-sensei – Ito reports he will be in SF August 2017 for the workshop 8/19 & 20. This year is 16 years of the Taimyo/meditation classes since 2001. He will then be in Quebec in Sept for workshop and exams. In October, he will be in Prague for ESC workshop. He clarified that he (Ito) and Minagawa will be the examiners for Kenjutsu until 2020. This will be a Shodan Kenjutsu exam on Kata and Diamond 8 cut. Challengers can be Shintaido Assistant as well as Karate or Bojutsu Shodan who might be interested. Two people from Quebec will attend. Jan 2018 Ito-sensei will be in SF for Kangeiko. Discussion followed on the Kenjutsu teaching program, hitori study as well as how to advance future examiners in their skills as examiners. Ito confirmed that as of 2021 that 2 SanDan Kenjutsu can examine challengers for ShoDan.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Connie Borden