

Morningstar Mystery School

Board of Directors

August Meeting

Minutes

August 10, 2019

Present: Ealasaïd, Laura, Katie, Ken, Sandra

Facilitator: Katie

Called to Order at: 10:06am Pacific

- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer
- Approve minutes from previous meeting
 - ◆ Laura moves to approve, unanimous.
- Treasurer Report
 - ◆ Slowly catching up.
 - ◆ More people paying tuition now – 3 more
 - ◆ Paypal balance is pretty high, will be transferring \$1,200 to Rivermark, bringing us up over \$8k,000.
 - ◆ Sandra still needs to be paid back for last year's expenses
 - ◆ John still needs to get his Rivermark card reactivated and log into Dreamhost to pick up more domain names, will do that once he has the card.
 - ◆ Has the info to file our taxes online, will be doing that.
 - ◆ Once that's handled, will take a stab at the insurance spreadsheet.
 - ◆ Laura: we need to start tracking receipt of retreat deposits (\$80).
 - Also needs Cedar to be reimbursed for the deposit on the retreat location.
- Updates on action items from the previous meeting
 - ◆ Laura
 - Conflict Resolution Board followups – did send email, only heard back from Nancy.
 - Add info on what is in-MStar-only information to social media policy – didn't get to it, will do.
 - Get a checklist for blog person to look at when approving posts – hasn't done this either
 - ◆ Everyone: look at document retention writeup.

- Some discussion about Pillars and Retreat committee moving their docs to the Google Drive.
- Sandra: we should have a Morningstar repository for this stuff, Pillars need to keep their docs/notes/minutes in a central place like the Drive. This is necessary.
- ◆ Ken: draft Tomb of Rebirth info, share with Sandra
 - Had trouble writing it up/articulating clearly. Also found it difficult to write about in a way that adequately captured the idea of the tomb of birth vs putting someone off.
 - Laura: the point with this is to stop ourselves from rushing to a solution. So we need discernment around what kind of problem-solving is necessary. But the first step is for the person to articulate the problem and acknowledge it, then hand it to the board. That very first part is really important.
 - Much discussion.
 - Salient points:
 - The TOB is for difficult, shadow issues. Personal conflicts and obvious-fix material have their own thing (the Conflict Resolution Board, requests to Pillars)
 - The TOB is a way to stop our instinctive rush to a fix, to make sure everyone is clear on what the issue is and give space.
 - Possible process: an email address members can send a message when they have problems/questions. Someone is in charge of that email address, brings the person's issue to the Board. If the Board agrees it's a TOB matter, the person in charge of the email address responds to the person who brought the matter up, confirms permission, and posts it anonymously to the TOB forum board for community discussion. (If it's not a TOB matter, the Board suggests an appropriate fix)
 - We will need clear rules around the forum discussion – essentially the existing Morningstar norms of behavior.
 - Sandra: there could be a back and forth between the person and the board, we draft the TOB post and send to them. We can rewrite in such a way as to make it as generic as possible. Working with Shadow, people will recognize themselves in it even when they're not actually in it. People will probably take it personally, it'll probably hurt. That's the nature of this work. If we don't do it, if we don't have a mechanism for dealing with it, it will continue to be un-dealt-with and will ferment and putrify. We have evidence of how that's happened in the past. We can't just blame other people or blame the people who left, we need to say hey, yeah, we're not perfect and some of these things don't have a clear solution. There isn't a clear solution for what to do how to help people deal with change. Change is hard, and there's no way to stop it from being hard. If people are having emotional reactions and not speaking them, we can't force them to do that. The idea is to have a place to do it that

we can keep safe. Victor said – the darker the body the brighter the light, whatever that means. We often romanticize shadow work. Jenya Turner Beachy talked about a realization she had, oh right, this shit sucks! But this stuff is fertile. We need to do it.

- We need a person in charge of the email address and also a person to moderate the forum. There should be term limits or other ways for people to tap out, it's wearing work.
- Katie: sounds like we're wanting to go through with this, what are our next steps?
- Laura: revise Ken's draft, then do post on the forum and include in the next newsletter (at the end of September), if we find we need to make adjustments, we can. Need to think about self and community care. The board interacts all over the school and stuff will feel personal. At the retreat, see if what we've gathered needs to be worked on.
- Ken will take another stab at the draft, then forward to Sandra.
- ◆ Ealasaid:
 - Let teaching pillar know students can come to them about money – meeting tomorrow will do then. done
 - Insurance application. Waiting on John.
- Pillar and other standing reports
 - ◆ Research & Alumni Pillar (Katie)
 - Met. Working on blog post. Majority of pillar feels we haven't received submissions because the school is not ready to go public. Do have one post in hand and a couple on offer. Concern that if we post the one we have and then don't have anything, there'd be a gap. Worse to have a post sit there alone for months than leave things blank like they are now.
 - Some discussion around the blog – frequency of posts, people to recruit to write posts, etc.
 - Katie will try again.
 - ◆ Teaching & Curriculum Pillar (Ealasaid)
 - Classes are ongoing.
 - The pillar is working on psychic skills class
 - Ealasaid is stepping back from Pillar
 - ◆ Temple & Tech Pillar (Laura)
 - Lots of talk about school shadow stuff.
 - Newsletter for next month, still have to archive old board. Nothing big to report back
 - Astral temple maintainers.
 - ◆ Retreat Committee (Laura)
 - Goign to have monthly meetings.
 - ◆ IRS Stuff
 - We are late in tax filing but there's no penalty. John's working on it.

- We're good.
- Action Items – Ealasaid will send out shortly. Added below during editing:
 - ◆ Ken:
 - Revise Tomb of Rebirth draft, send to Sandra
 - ◆ Laura:
 - Add info on in-Mstar-only info to social media policy
 - Checklist for blog person to look at when approving posts
 - Look into forum capabilities for turning replies on and off for threads
 - ◆ Sandra:
 - Look at Tomb of Rebirth draft.
- Confirm next month's call – September 14th, 10am Pacific – confirmed. Laura might be late.
- Facilitator leads everyone in taking a breath together and reciting the Holy Mother prayer.

Adjourned at 11:25am