

MEHER BABA CENTER OF THE TWIN CITIES
Board Meeting, February 15, 2009

In the loving glow of the Sunday morning following Valentines Day it was clear that the Board members of the MBCTC were uninspired. After a leisurely breakfast and conversation all assembled in a circle in Betsy Dollar's studio.

In attendance were Bob and Monica Ochtrup, Betsy Dollar, Pat Cook, Sandy Schwanz, Chris Malakapalli and Sandra Self. Diana Forsman, Karen Plante and Rogier Gregoire were unable to attend. It was announced the DJ Johnston could not attend due to Leah's father's impending death. All were asked to remember them in their thoughts and prayers.

President Pat Cook called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM. Pat read the minutes from the January Meeting and they were approved as submitted.

Baba's Birthday Dinner.

The next event on our calendar is the dinner at Chris and Ratna's house for Baba's birthday. It sounds as though they have all the preparations well in hand. They will provide a birthday cake. Sandy offered to help with decorations. She will coordinate with Ratna.

Pat mentioned that he is missing a sweater from an event at their house several years ago and was wondering whether Chris has seen it. Chris believes that they may still have it. He will take a look and return it if he comes across it.

Financial Report Meher Spiritual Center (\$1,113) was sent and a letter acknowledging the check had been received. The \$300 check was also sent to The Glow. No acknowledgement has been received. The proof will be whether it is cashed. Bob also reported that he wrote the letters that accompanied the checks because Monica was too busy.

The new membership cycle has brought in \$480 in membership dues and \$530 in donations. Our current cash on hand is \$4,364.75. Sandy moved that the financial report be accepted as submitted. Sandra seconded and all agreed. (Where is Steve when we need some oppositional energy!) [that last statement came from Betsy who has only been on the board for several years. She does not speak for those who have been on the board with Steve for decades!] ;~)>

New Year Schedule

Monica reported that she can not reserve the room in her building for our events more than three months in advance. She has reserved the first Sundays in April and May. She has to wait to attempt to reserve our date in June.

Website Update

All the information on the website is current and up to date except the posting of Board Meeting minutes. Betsy will e-mail those to Chris to post. The new website design is slightly stalled while Betsy generates new graphics. The images and quotes are chosen. Betsy just needs to put them together in a pleasing design, She will be working on these over the next few weeks.

Pat asked whether we should post our membership roster with contact information on the site in a way that could only be accessed by members. There was some concern expressed over privacy issues and Chris suggested we create an online contact group. It requires a one time sign-up and the group can post information, events, and chat through the group. Concern was expressed for those who are not currently connected to e-mail, specifically Karen and Steve. No conclusion was come to on this. Kris said he would look into the Yahoo contact group idea.

Follow-Up to Jeff Wolverton's visit.

Pat read a stunningly gracious letter from Jeff as a

follow-up and thank you for his visit. Pat said that he only has about six comments from attendees to send back to Jeff, but hopes to get more in the next few days so that he can reply. Nancy Okerlund also promised to type up her notes from the entire weekend for the group.

FYI

During Jeff's visit Davis Taylor told Pat how much he appreciated the retreat format of the Sahavas and that he would be willing to contribute \$500 - \$1000 toward maintaining that format for the next Sahavas. Something to keep in the mix as we consider this year's Sahavas.

With no other business to come before the group, Pat adjourned the meeting at 11:52 PM

Submitted by Betsy Dollar
2/16/09