

THE ZEN STUDIES SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1983

A meeting of the board of trustees of The Zen Studies Society was held Wednesday, December 21, 1983, at the N.Y. Zendo Shoboji. Present were Eido Tai Shimano, Abbot; Aiho Yasuko Shimano, Korin Sylvan Busch, Bugyo David Schneyer, Genro Lee Milton, Jikei Jean Bankier, Kogen Mike Raftery, Zenshin Richard Rudin, Muin Bernard Spitz, Muso David Leddick, Karen Barnes.

The chief purpose of the meeting was to amend the By-Laws of the Society pursuant to Section 615 of the Not-For-Profit Corporation Law. Korin Sylvan Busch stated that the Society's legal counsel, Jack Clareman, had been consulted on the proper procedure. He then moved that the By-Law Section 1. Officers: (a) be amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. Officers: (a) There shall be an Abbot, who shall serve as the spiritual leader of the organization and who shall serve as Chairman, ex officio, of the Board of Trustees and as a member, ex officio, of all committees of The Zen Studies Society, Inc. The Abbot shall be selected by the affirmative votes of two-thirds of the directors and once selected shall continue to hold such office until his resignation, death or incapacity to continue to serve by reason of health, mental or physical. Upon resigning this office, the Abbot shall have the right to select his successor, who must, however, be approved by a two-thirds vote of the directors. In the event a successor shall not be so designated by the resigning Abbot, then the directors shall select the Abbot who must, however, be approved by the unanimous vote of the directors."

By unanimous vote, it was RESOLVED to adopt the above amendment.

Bugyo David Schneyer then read aloud a proposed Resolution clarifying the plan discussed at the board meeting of October 11, 1983, for the creation of three Executive Committees (The Carlson Fund, N.Y. Zendo Shoboji, and Dai Bosatsu Zendo Kongoji Committees) to govern The Zen Studies Society effective January 1, 1984. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Resolution as read (but subject to changes from time to time as the board may decree) was unanimously adopted, to become a part of the By-Laws. The secretary was instructed to attach a copy of the Resolution to the minutes of the meeting.

Aiho reported that the December 10-11 Arts Sale at Shoboji had grossed \$11,589.49 but, as of the present, was \$3,000 in the red. Muin later stated that the 1984 calendar had cost more and sold less well than had been anticipated, and attempts will be made to "move" the remaining calendars, numbering some 600.

Aiho further reported that the N.Y. Zendo Shoboji had on hand \$16,658.87 in checking and savings accounts, and that The Zen Studies

Society's Nomura Securities account now stood at \$76,408.99.

Bugyo reported for DBZ Kongoji that as of December 20, income was \$107,908.22 and total disbursements were \$112,495.21.

Returning to the subject of the three governing committees, Eido Roshi now asked that the following chairmen be approved:

- Shoboji Committee - Genro Lee Milton, chairman
- Kongoji Committee - Bugyo David Schneyer, chairman
- The Carlson Fund Committee - Muso David Leddick, chairman

By a show of hands, these appointments were unanimously approved.

Eido Roshi then advised that treasurers of the committees will be Aiho for Shoboji and The Carlson Fund, and himself, Eido Roshi, for Kongoji. In view of Muso's heavy travel schedule, Jikei Jean Bankier was asked to serve as vice chairman of The Carlson Fund Committee. Karen Barnes was asked to be its secretary.

Eido Roshi then informed the meeting that the board for the cooperative apartment house located at 333 East 69 St. had accepted the Shimanos as buyers of an apartment, and they had subsequently moved from the townhouse at 356 East 69 St. He then read aloud an official letter dated December 21, 1983, addressed to The Zen Studies Society and signed by both Shimanos. The secretary was instructed to attach a copy of this letter to the minutes of the meeting. The letter expressed the Shimanos' gratitude to Dorris Carlson for the gift of the townhouse, which they had so enjoyed for many years, and made it clear that Dorris Carlson understood their desire to move, and had agreed to the sale of the townhouse, in September of 1983. The letter also stated that the net proceeds of the sale of the townhouse will be kept at The Zen Studies Society and called The Carlson Fund; that the purchase price of the apartment was \$160,000, which sum had been borrowed; that this debt will be paid off by proceeds from the sale of the townhouse; and that upon the Shimanos' demise or leavetaking, proceeds from the sale of the apartment will be returned to The Carlson Fund.

Eido Roshi asked for the board's approval of the foregoing, and it was unanimously given.

Bugyo proposed that vacations should be offered to the Shimanos by The Zen Studies Society, and this too was approved.

Eido Roshi reported that plans were under discussion to go with a new insurance broker, a Japanese, and to combine all Zen Studies Society insurance under one policy.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Jikei Jean Bankier, Secretary

copy this was recorded by the Shimanos

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December 21, 1983

To the Board of Directors
of The Zen Studies Society

Attached please find a letter written by Dorris Carlson on October 21, 1974. This letter has two points:

First, "When I gave funds for the purchase of the property at 356 East 67th Street, it was primarily to provide a "homey" and absolutely private atmosphere for Eido Roshi and his wife to take refuge in for rest and privacy."

Second, "It is my wish that the property at 356 East 69th Street not be sold but that it be retained as the home of the Roshi and his wife alone."

Beginning with the first point, let me express our gratitude to Dorris Carlson and to the Board of Directors of The Zen Studies Society. During the past twelve years, Aiho (Yasuko) took care of the house very well. As you all know she created the beautiful atmosphere where many guests came, stayed, and enjoyed the visit. At the same time we were able to have the privacy which was very precious. But the time has come for us to simplify our lives so that we don't have to worry about possible burglary while both of us are at Dai Bosatsu or elsewhere. Also, we are a little tired of the responsibility of maintaining and fixing pipes, roofs, etc.

Hence, during the past few months we searched for an appropriate co-op for us to move to. By chance we found a small apartment across the street, and after two months of careful examination by their Board, we were luckily accepted. On November 17th the closing took place, and on November 23rd most of the furniture was moved in by the help of resident students of both zendos. So, Dorris' wish "to provide a 'homey' and absolutely private atmosphere for Eido Roshi and his wife to take refuge in for rest and privacy" has been assured, and we are very happy. Although, if there were another room we would be more contented.

As for the second point, on September 19th, 12 noon (Chester Carlson's Memorial Day) I called Dorris, and at the end of our conversation I mentioned our wish to move from the townhouse to a cooperative apartment. She understood our wish and agreed to the sale of the townhouse. I also mentioned to her at that time that when it is sold, the net worth will be kept at The

December 21, 1983

Board of Directors
Zen Studies Society

Zen Studies Society and called the Carlson Fund. The interest will be used for various activities of The Zen Studies Society.

The purchase price of this apartment (1 bedroom, 1 living room, 1 kitchen) was \$160,000. I borrowed \$50,000 from Citibank and \$100,000 from two friends. The old house is now on the market, and Aiho has shown it to 30-40 people already. Douglas-Elliman's real estate agent suggested an asking price of \$850,000. But so far there is no settlement.

When it is sold, I would like to ask The Zen Studies Society to extend to me \$160,000 so I may repay the above mentioned loans which have been necessary to provide a suitable residence replacing the house to be sold. In turn, we will arrange in our will and with the executor of the will that the apartment is to be sold and the subsequent money to be returned to the Carlson Fund of The Zen Studies Society upon our demise. The law does not allow the apartment to be left directly to the Society. It will also specify that if one party dies and the survivor wishes to return to Japan, the apartment is to be sold and \$160,000 be returned to the Carlson Fund of The Zen Studies Society, the balance of the sale to be considered the survivor's pension. It would also specify that the Carlson Fund of The Zen Studies Society would be responsible for the maintenance of the apartment (currently about \$500) in the period between the demise of the owners and its sale.

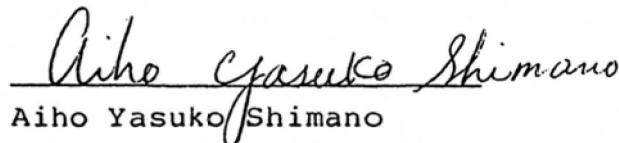
I hope that I have made our intentions clear and wish to thank you all for your understanding and cooperation. It goes without saying that we are most grateful to Dorris Carlson. Without her it would not have been possible for us to have had our personal privacy, and the two zendos would not have been established in the way they are today.

"Let True Dharma continue Universal Sangha relation International Dai Bosatsu Zendo become complete."

Gassho,



Eido Tai Shimano



Aiho Yasuko Shimano

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MRS. CHESTER F. CARLSON
133 CRESCENT HILL ROAD
PITTSFORD, NEW YORK 14534

October 21, 1974

Dear

Yasuko!

As an honorary board member as well as the one who has made the Zendo, Monastery and house of 69th a reality through very great financial support, I would like to express my thoughts on the proposed or eventual sale of the 69th Street property.

When I gave funds for the purchase of the property at 356 East 69th Street it was primarily to provide a "homey" and absolutely private atmosphere for Eido Roshi and his wife to take refuge in for rest and privacy. I know from experience that a person who is consumed in fulfilling a spiritual destiny gives out so much of himself that such periods of privacy and renewal are absolute necessities.

All churches and synagoges in this country provide a home for the spiritual leader as well as a salary. In the case of the Zen Studies Society, I gave the home; I don't know about a salary, but assume that Eido Roshi should not be the only one in the organization expected to give himself so completely that he must give up his home. None of us would be willing to do this nor should Eido Roshi be expected to do so. He gives himself completely to the work in abundant dedication. The least we can do is insure a home with absolute privacy for him and his wife. I even wish that he and Yasuko could feel no obligation in letting anyone stay there, either visitors or students unless the idea and invitation originate entirely with them. At times Eido Roshi needs to be able to retreat from his administrative duties, the community and the spiritual work. He above all needs to replenish himself as he gives so much.

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The members of the Zendo are most fortunate in having Eido Roshi; they are most fortunate to have been given sums of money to help establish this work. No other Center in the United States or perhaps the world is as handsomely endowed primarily by the grant of one person. All the members should now put every effort into sustaining this work. It should not be the sole effort of Eido Roshi and a few others.

We should all be grateful for the wonderful, inspiring spiritual example of Eido Roshi and give him our support.

It is my wish that the property at 356 East 69th Street not be sold but that it be retained as the home of the Roshi and his wife alone. In an effort to give him support and sustenance, I don't think any of the members should have the use of the house as it should be as much Eido Roshi and Yasuko's house as is your home or my home our own. Our own home came to be known as a place where any and all could come, while I as part of the Spiritual Quest became the servant. I knew the value of having one place where one might run to when the body has been threatened with both physical and mental exhaustion. Eido Roshi is not one to complain. Rather, we should try to look at this matter in the way one of us would feel in similar circumstances. Believe me I speak from over twenty-five years of personal experience and speak through a very, very tired body.

It is only because of the spiritual stature of Eido Roshi that I gave any funds to the New York Zen Studies Society. If it were not for him, I should not have been interested.

Perhaps I shall be able to meet with the Board in the not too distant future. For the time being, however, it is not possible.

I should say that it was only by chance that I learned of the real reason for the proposed possible sale of 356 East 69th Street. Of course, Eido Roshi was not complaining. But I felt a need to discuss the matter with the Board and to voice my opinion that the property should not be sold.

With all personal good wishes to each of you,

Sincerely,

J. Carlson

Mrs. Chester F. Carlson

DHC/el