**Minutes AMBCOF Board Meeting April 3, 2020, 7.30PM**

**Via Zoom**

**THE CIRCLE CENTER**

**Present**: Angela Lee Chen, John Leiter, Laura Crabtree, Jeff Stearns, Judy Mangold, Fereshteh Azad, Dennis Wolterding

**Guests** Al Grasso, Jim Knutson

1. ***I. Opening: Baba’s words, moment of silence***
2. ***II. Reading of Norms***

1. Start and end with remembering Baba

2. Participate fully

3. Respect each other

4. Work as a team / no silent disagreements

5. Be careful of using generalizations

6. Seek solutions beyond your own

7. Find joy in what you are doing.

8. Maintain your humor

9. Remain focused on the task

9a. No cell phones 9b. No side conversations 9c. No shifting focus

10. Keep all private information private.

11. Start & End on time and with Baba (7 – 9:00 pm)

1. ***III. Approval of Previous Minutes Mar 5, 2020***
2. Motion to approve by John Leiter, seconded by Fereshteh Azad. Unanimously approved by all.

**IV.**  ***Reports of Officers/Directors (See Assignments in Appendix)***

-- President’s Report *(ALC)*

*Zoom news – instant expansion from a location-specific center to one that attracts participants from all over US, even some international participation. Meetings can be run by volunteers in any part of the country: for example two new book reading meetings led by individuals located in New York, and a dance party hosted by Roxana in LA, also Adrienne Shamszad leading yoga from northern CA. Number of meetings growing almost daily as people come up with new ideas. People all across the US and the world are sheltering in place, with time on their hands and the need to connect to other Baba lovers. This is our chance to serve.*

*April 4 thank you party for volunteers will have to be rescheduled*

*Follow-up to Agreement with Charlie Mills – Don McBride mentioned we need to find a good spot for the Aslan painting – so it sounds like we are good with Charlie.*

*Recap of March, a look ahead to April – our schedule busier than ever and growing*

*Continued need to pay rent – after brief discussion, discussion about paying future rent tabled for next meeting when hopefully we will have more clarity about how the pandemic plays out. April rent has been paid… Dennis wishes to maintain our “can speech” virtually, Angela believes it is inappropriate at this time, that this is our service to BLs shut in their homes, that tapping our reserves at this time is exactly why we have reserves – this is the “rainy day” we have been saving up for, the emergency that brings different priorities to the fore.*

*Angela taken over the calendar for now – due to the rapid changes that can occur, and the technical nature of the platform that defines our current meeting space, it is just easier for Angela to manage the calendar exclusively for now, while the pandemic keeps us physically distanced.*

-- Vice President’s Report (n/a)

-- Secretary’s Report (Laura C.)

---Treasurer's Report (Jeff S.)

*Update on funds – slight dip in our income, but nothing alarming*

*John comments that we will need to set a threshold below which we do feel an urgency to raise funds, to be discussed in a future meeting.*

---Service Director's Report (n/a)

---Fundraising Report (Fereshteh A.)

*Agrees with Angela that our online meetings are a service. Now is not a good time to try to auction items online, not a time for fundraisers.*

*Agrees with highlighting the donation button in our newsletter. Dennis to write up a paragraph for the newsletter.*

---C.O.F.E. (Dennis W)

*Dennis reports he has filed The Circle's 2020 Tax Return (990 Postcard) with the IRS; he has arranged for NY Life to do a Presentation; and that Coastal Samaritan's Presentation is been cancelled owing to COVID-19.*

-- Director at Large/Volunteer Coordinator *(*Judy M.)

---Director at Large (John L.: )

*Comments that it will likely be some time before things become normal, so we may not want to invest in a large fundraising dinner right away, for example, eg the June Gala may be too soon, even if business returns to “normal” soon.*

1. ***V. Old Business***
2. **Fundraising Gala June 27, musical guest Andrew Radford**

***VI.******New Business****:*

1. What is our threshold for needing to worry about our finances?
2. Continue to pay rent?
3. Dennis to write a paragraph for the newsletter about the donation button.