



Avatar Meher Baba's Circle of Friends, Inc.
A 501(3)(c) Organization EIN 86-1152681
P.O. Box 1234
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29598-1234
843-273-0709 ambcirclefriends@gmail.com
www.ambcircleoffriends.com

AVATAR MEHER BABA'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, INC.
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP, DECEMBER 9, 2017

Meeting Registration began at approximately 5:00 p.m. at THE CIRCLE CENTER, Myrtle Beach Mall. Dinner commenced immediately and Ben Hay opened the Meeting with The Master's Prayer about 25 minutes later.

Attendance: Approximately 100 people attended the Meeting, including Members, Guests, Musicians and The Key Note Speaker, Dr. Allan Cohen.

Items Discussed: See Agenda attached for general topics discussed and Meeting Framework.
MP3 File "171209_001.mp3" contains the raw recording of this Meeting in its entirety.
(Minutes are constructed based on this File and notes taken by Laura Crabtree at the Meeting.)
Portions of the Meeting and the Entire Keynote Address are posted on Robin Vogel's YouTube Site at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EII6Dea5eLU>

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

A Quorum existing, the Annual Meeting proceeded to business. A motion to accept the 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes was made by Don McBride; seconded by Laura Crabtree and PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer Jeff Stearns reported that The Circle began the Year with a bank balance of **\$8400.00**, and as of the Meeting Date (12/09/2017), it was **\$15,700.00**

Dennis Wolterding gave The President's Report which was accepted by acclamation of the Members.

Steve Koren, Director of Fundraising, gave a "Doors to the Future" presentation and a fundraising appeal.

Jerry Edwards and Avatar Blue provided interlude music while the ballots were being counted.

The Election was duly held in accordance with the By-Laws. The Proxy/Ballot and Instructions used are attached. (Note: Christina Riley resigned as Director at Large 1 and John Leiter replaced her on the Board too late for the Ballots to be revised. Members revised their Ballots at the Election and voted accordingly.)

The Nominating Committee consisted of Jeff Stearns and Price Branch. No candidates were nominated from the floor by the Members and ALL Ballot candidates were elected as follows:.

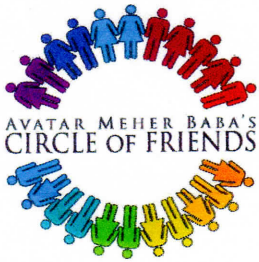
Position of President: Dennis Wolterding-- Yes Votes= 72; No Votes =0

Position of Secretary: Laura Crabtree-- Yes Votes= 72; No Votes =0

Position of Director of Fundraising: Steve Koren-- Yes Votes= 72; No Votes =0

Position of Dir. of Comm. Ed., Fellowship; Outreach; Don McBride-- Yes Votes= 72; No Votes =0

Position of Member-at-Large: John Leiter-- Yes Votes= 72; No Votes =0



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After the election, Ben Hay gave a brief talk on The Circle's new Welcoming Committee.

Laura Crabtree introduced the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Allan Cohen, who gave a splendid address on:

"The Avatar's Role as Lord of Social Work: Implications for Meher Baba Communities."

(Note: The Keynote and an informal discussion with Dr. Cohen after the Meeting adjourned are available at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKyIDQfACBKCJChAscTua0A/videos>)

Cake and Coffee were served after the Keynote. Judy Mangold led the assembled in the Beloved God Prayer to end the Meeting.

Adjournment: A Motion to Adjourn was made by Jonathan Burroughs; seconded by Don McBride and approved by acclamation, and the Meeting ended at about 7:12 p.m.

December 9, 2017 Draft Minutes Respectfully Submitted By Dennis Jan Wolterding.

Dennis Jan Wolterding

ATTACHMENTS HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

1. 2017 Annual Meeting Agenda
2. Annual Address to the Membership by Circle President, Dennis Wolterding
3. Proxy Ballot Instructions
4. Proxy Ballot

Archived and Available: Audio File "**171209_001.mp3**"
 Video File of Keynote Address



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AMB Circle of Friends Annual Meeting, Dec. 9, 2017
THE CIRCLE CENTER 10177 N. Kings HWY, Myrtle Beach SC 29572

REGISTRATION-RAFFLE SALES	(Laura Crabtree & Judy Mangold)
INDIAN BUFFET DINNER	(Masala of Myrtle Beach)
CALL TO ORDER	(Dennis Wolterding)
WELCOME & OPENING MASTER'S PRAYER	(Ben Hay)
APPROVAL OF ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES 2016	(Don McBride)
FINANCIAL SUMMARY	(Jeff Stearns)
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS	(Dennis Wolterding)
DOORS TO THE FUTURE	(Steve Koren)
NOMINATING COMMITTEE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	(Jeff Stearns).
MUSIC INTERLUDE	(Jerry Edwards & Avatar Blue)
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF ELECTION RESULTS	(Jeff Stearns)
"WELCOMING COMMITTEE DEBUT"	(Ben Hay)
INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER	(Laura Crabtree)
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	(Dr. Allan Cohen)
<i>"The Avatar's Role as Lord of Social Work: Implications for Meher Baba Communities."</i>	
50-50 RAFFLE DRAWING	(Jerry Edwards)
ADJOURNMENT WITH BELOVED GOD PRAYER	(Judy Mangold)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: DENNIS WOLTERDING at 843-421-1479



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UP ON SANGUINE AIR
ANNUAL ADDRESS TO THE MEMBERSHIP 2017
Dennis Jan Wolterding, President

Last year, in an extended metaphor, I likened the state of The Circle to the first flight of a proto-bird—a leap of faith on inchoate wings.

We've been aloft now for quite some time and our view has, blessedly, changed. We're looking down now, less often, for fear of falling. We feel buoyant, finding that to near the dome of Heaven is to be brimmed by starlight.

And the source of this newfound calm is, simply, **"You"**.

In truth, The Circle has never been anything other than you, your combined energy, passion, devotion, talent and work. But this has never been so clear as now when we've invested so much, risked so much, in what we fondly call "His Home in the Mall"-THE CIRCLE CENTER.

Oh, yes, The Board found the Space, secured it, half-funded it. And we've dispatched a thousand pesky details in getting and keeping it open. But as sweet as that might seem, this Place would simply be 3,600 square feet of decor were it not for all of you.

Numbers, here, are telling: Since the First of the Year, THE CIRCLE CENTER has sparkled with programs of all types: 106 educational; 59 artistic; 14 testimonial; 37 devotional; 8 fellowship and fundraising; three memorials; four outside-world.

Wondrous and alluring has been their scope: The divine feminine; illumination; night-sky astronomy and vedic astrology; the Avatar's eschatology; Jungian psychology; archives and Dunites and the architecture of the mind; Meher Baba's traverses; music from classical piano to hand-drum to Tibetan bowl; arti and Hafiz; effort and grace; crafts of every stripe and beauty; and subjects undaunted—aliens; self-defense, even the intricacies of hearts, spades and shooting the moon.

From Inner Space to the Outer Limits, all of this has been fashioned and given by you, with, I trust, a little help from Our Friend.

Still, it is true, there is no island in the sky, and we are gliding on tenuous wings. Our reserves are meager and each month's debts must be paid. And our Master is a Trickster Who is wont to show us that there is but a fine line between "turning the key" and twisting the knife.

And yet, this day I report to you that I am flush with hope: I know that with your unified being every height between up and down and every time between now and then can be spanned with one word: **"Us"**.

AVATAR MEHER BABA'S CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, INC. (THE CIRCLE)
2017 ANNUAL MEETING—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2017
THE CIRCLE CENTER, MYRTLE BEACH MALL, 10177 NORTH KINGS HWY, MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29572

PROXY/BALLOT

The undersigned is a member in good standing of Avatar Meher Baba's Circle of Friends, Inc. and appoints *Mr. Jeff Stearns* as the Proxy Agent for the above-referenced meeting and adjournment(s) thereof. This proxy revokes any proxy that I may have previously signed and is hereby authorized for the December 9, 2017 Annual Meeting only.

Election of Directors: Vote for one (1) each by marking with an "x" or checkmark in the appropriate place

<u>DIRECTOR</u>	<u>NOMINEE</u>	<u>VOTE "YES"</u>	<u>VOTE "NO"</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
President	Dennis Wolterding	_____	_____	_____
OR	-----	_____	_____	_____
Secretary	Laura Crabtree	_____	_____	_____
OR	-----	_____	_____	_____
Director of Fundraising	Steve Koren	_____	_____	_____
OR	-----	_____	_____	_____
Director of Fellowship/Ed./Comm.:	Don McBride	_____	_____	_____
OR	-----	_____	_____	_____
Director at Large (1)	Christina Riley	_____	_____	_____
OR	John Leiter	_____	_____	_____
Date:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Name of Member (Please Print):	_____			

Signature of Member:

Note: Ms. Riley resigned as Director-at-Large too late for Ballot to be revised. Voters made a list of ballots to elect John Leiter who replaced Ms. Riley

CIRCLE PROXY/BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS—2017 ANNUAL MEETING

VOTING FOR THE DIRECTORS

Enclosed please find the Proxy/Ballot for the 2017 Annual Meeting of Avatar Meher Baba's Circle of Friends, Inc. (The Circle). Five (5) directorships, all currently filled by incumbents, are up for election. The term of each director is two years.

You may cast a "Yes" vote or a "No" vote for each directorship by making an "x" or checkmark in the space to the right of the name. Or you may cast a vote for another nominee who is proposed and seconded on the floor of the Annual Meeting (on the line that begins with OR). For such a nominee, simply write in their name on the appropriate line under the directorship for which they are nominated. At the Annual Meeting, you have the right to nominate (subject to a second) any Circle member in good standing for the five directorships up for election, subject to the By-Law condition governing President and Vice-President. Before nominating anyone for any directorship, however, we urge you to ensure that the individual is ready and willing to serve on the Circle Board. You may also choose to "abstain" from voting for one or more directors by marking the appropriate space in the column entitled "Abstain".

PROXY AGENT

Kindly note that this Proxy/Ballot designates Mr. Jeff Stearns as the Proxy Agent. Mr. Stearns will ensure that, in your absence, your ballot is properly submitted and counted. **Moreover, unless you specifically choose to abstain by marking your ballot in the area provided, Mr. Stearns shall have the right to cast your vote for any directorships that you leave unmarked.**

You MUST sign and date your ballot for it to be counted. We also ask that you print your name in the space provided.

Even if you choose to abstain from voting for anything, please know that your proxy/ballot counts in determining a quorum for the Annual Meeting so we urge you to return it to us.

Prior to the Annual Meeting, you may return your Proxy/Ballot to:

Mr. Jeff Stearns, Proxy Agent,
Avatar Meher Baba's Circle of Friends, Inc.
P.O. Box 1234
North Myrtle Beach, SC 29598-1234

Please note that you may also retain your ballot and cast it in person at the Annual Meeting when you will know if there are other candidates for directorships nominated from the floor.

Should you have any questions on the ballot or voting process, please contact:
Mr. Dennis Wolterding: 843-421-1479 or dennisjanwolterding@gmail.com