

**Seattle Dances of Universal Peace  
Planning Meeting  
2/21/2025**

**Present:** Ka (convener), Phil, Karim, John (VfP), Martha, Hassan, Helen (scribe), Elizabeth, Jennifer

**Opening Dance:** "Fill Your Cup"

**Announcements:**

Ka and Martha: Efforts to get our Circle's information onto the North American website were only partially successful. Contact info is there, but no current events. North America and International websites and data bases are being separated and re-done. The new IN site is scheduled to be up on 3/1. All leaders will need to rejoin the new platform and re-enter Circle information. We haven't heard details yet about the new NA site.

Hassan: Whidbey Zikr circle hopefully will be restarted this weekend.

Hassan and Elizabeth: Bi-lingual training retreat in Trancones Mexico was very successful, with over 70 people. The Dances are truly international and multi-cultural!

Ka: Dance in Mt Vernon on Sunday 3/2, 6:00-8:00pm.

**Treasurer's report:**

We have a total of \$5103.41 in our treasury. \$442 of that is dedicated to the scholarship fund. We have had no expenses and have made rent each month.

**Interim Committee report**

Interim Committee polled all the regular planning meeting members for approval to pay Judith Card to monitor our website for viruses, at a cost of \$10/month, billed quarterly. Judith has done this for free since she helped us get the website up again following Brian's passing. She found and cleared a virus for us last year. We agreed to formally approve the agreement. We will receive a bill for the first 3 months in May.

**Indoor Winter/Spring Dances**

March: N'Shama and Murad, Cedron guitarist

April: Elizabeth and mentee

May through September: Hassan and Elizabeth are planning to lead pop-up outdoor dances as we have in previous years.

Do we need to confirm anything with 7400? Church is aware that we are stopping indoor dances in May. We have not talked to them about next fall. We will need to plan our fall dates in this group, then see if they are available at the church. We will take that topic up at our next meeting.

**Fall Regional Retreat**

No additional specifics are available yet. The regional spring retreat is coming back, which is a good place to gather registrants for the fall. In April Martha and Elizabeth will concentrate on getting a flier ready.

### **7400 Door Signs**

Ka has made new signs to post on front (Woodlawn) side and southeast (Latona) side doors. The Latona sign refers to the GATE and the Woodlawn sign refers to the ALLEY. These are on heavy white paper and have stick figures with directional arrows. Please post each of these on the correct door *along with* one of the more colorful laminated DUP signs and store them together in the suitcase in the church closet. We have enough people to set up in March.

### **COVID tests**

Ka asks if it's worth continuing our current protocol. We unanimously agree to drop the requirement to test before joining the circle. We will ask dancers not to come if feeling any symptoms, and to test if recently exposed. We will continue to provide masks. Ka will develop a sign that advises vulnerable people to mask. We will need to have additional flexibility if a leader needs to back out at the last minute.

### **Pause for gratitude:**

It's clear that pulling towards the good is strong within us. Thankful we maintained our connection through Covid and everything else. Zoom means we have a lower carbon footprint, and we can include folks at a vast distance. What we are doing, demonstrating peace and connection, is incredibly important at this time.

### **Ethics Guidelines**

Circles can choose to make available the ethics guidelines, which is a lengthy document. John will see if there is a portion specifically for dancers that could become a shorter flier for the table. Helen can post a link on website. We could announce verbally if we perceive some issue arising.

### **Fliers and Cards**

Brian used to make sure we had plenty of cards and fliers, but we need new outreach materials now. Should we print more cards? For now, Karim can bring a one-page non-specific flier that needs to be folded. Ka can reprint a few old fliers and cross out prior dates and write in new dates. Future fliers could describe pop-up dances with website info.

### **Next meeting:**

March 24, Monday, 3:00 preferred, 1:00-4:00 could be OK.

Convener: John

Scribe: Helen

Interim Committee: John, Ka, Karim as third member

**Gratitude** to Ka for well-organized agenda and looking ahead to new issues.

**Closing dance:** "Only a Heart with Wings Can Fly"

