

# Zen River Sangha Business Meeting

November 3, 2018

5 year mortgage, currently held by Reishin, due in 2020

Possible to renew another 5 years after 2020

## Should ZRS purchase the building?

YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Previous investments to prepare/maintain space</li><li>• Potential for other uses for the space/renting to other groups</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building is not essential to core of group or practice; could meet in “any” space</li><li>• Would have to assume unpredictable expenses for maintenance/repairs</li></ul>

### Other Considerations:

Would need to approximately double monthly income (at minimum another \$800+/m).

--current income ~\$1200/m

--current expenses ~\$1100/m

--\$20,000 in building fund (~½ from Kensho)

--\$5700 in operating fund

--current rent rate is already reduced, courtesy of Reishin

--would need to cover utilities if building is purchased

--current income has been largely consistent, despite attendance fluctuations

Paying fair rent would be roughly equivalent to projected mortgage payment.

Prefer not to charge membership fees, and continue to be welcoming. (Taiso)

Is the current location ideal for existing members?

Is there enough growth/confidence in sangha longevity to warrant owning a building?

Contributions of money, time, and energy.

Prefer to make decisions without direct voting to avoid creating divides and factions. (Taiso)

What will be the plan for when large-contributing members leave, retire, die, etc.?

More regular meetings, updates from the board, keeping sangha more informed about financials and volunteer needs.

### Ways to increase attendance/income

Iterative scaling up of programs, polling community for topics/needs

--rely more on members than priests

--quarterly evaluation of attendance and income

--ability to reevaluate and adjust course regularly

Standardized pledge form/online payment set up

Broader outreach within community

--marketing/branding push

Appeal to secular groups-- yoga, mindfulness, recovery groups, etc.

Specific fundraising events, day programs, community drives.

Additional emails/marketing communications.

Social media presence