

**Yoga Society of New York, Inc.  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, April 13, 2013**

**Trustees Present:** Carol Rollinger (Kiranavali), Margaret Dillsaver (Purnima), Scott Moss (Kamala Kant), Donna Carlisi, Anne Gaines (Radha)

**Trustees Present on GoTo Meetings:** Eve Kudler (Prajna), Silvia Donates (Sarasvati)

**Also Present:** Chet Faber, Bharati Balmes, Bonnie Frierich, Dick Bruns, Ma Bhaskarananda

President, Kiranavali, chaired the meeting

**I Welcome & Meditation**

**II Minutes:**

The minutes from the February 16, 2013 and March 16, 2013 Board Meetings were accepted and approved as presented. The following Special Board meeting minutes were also accepted and approved: January 16, 2013; March 5, 2013; March 31, 2013.

**III Financials:**

Eve provided a Treasurer's Report which is appended to these minutes. The April financial report consisted of the fiscal year P&L dated March 31, 2013, a current Balance Sheet dated April 9, 2013, and an A/P Aging Summary dated April 9, 2013. The financials were approved as presented.

**IV Commitite Reports:**

1. **HRC** – The key staff positions are covered as we move into our busy season. The kitchen has been operating within budget. We are having a good response to our Immersion Program.
2. **Building & Grounds** –
  - a. The Cottage electrical panel upgrade has been completed by Saft Electric. Purnima reports that the BBPT has provided their contribution of \$1140 for this renovation. The resolution for this upgrade was approved at the March 16, 2013 Board Meeting.
  - b. John will be meeting with contractors for estimates on repairing the lawns damaged from Storm Sandy. This re-landscaping should happen in May.
  - c. Hanuman Joe Pauline will kindly manage once again our lawn mowing.
  - d. The UV systems have been installed in the Lake House and Main House. We have an appointment with the Board of Health at the end of April for inspection.
  - e. The small room in Newman House, adjacent to kitchen, is being renovated with Donna overseeing the job.
  - f. Beautification Projects - Mark Howie has repainted the Main House meditation room.
  - g. John will repair the catch basin that was damaged recently by a tow truck.
3. **Program Planning** – Bharati has the website updated.

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**V Resolutions:**

- 1) **Whereas**, the YSNY desires to proceed with the construction work of Phase 1 of the Panini Annex, and has gotten two other estimates for the Panini Annex renovation, and has already hired Tom Burger as the plumber, now it is

**Resolved**, that the YSNY will hire and retain Tom Burger, to do the following additional work: carpentry, insulation and all preparation for the inspection prior to sheet rocking including the completion of items 1,3, 4 and 5 from Ben Maldonado's Inspection Sheet dated 4/11/13 , for Phase 1 of the Panini Annex renovation, for the sum of \$1700 in labor and materials including appropriate insulation, wood, nails, glue, fasteners, etc., fan ducts for bathrooms, constructing the entry closets including opening the wall under the steps and reframing it for both bathrooms and the lobby area. This is all in accordance with the existing architect's plans, and a separate list of specifics, to be paid from the Panini Annex Fund and that Scott Moss and/or any other Trustee is authorized to enter into an agreement, and Scott Moss shall have the authority, after discussion with Eve Kudler and/or Donna Carlisi to make additional minor changes, not to exceed the sum of an additional \$1,000.00 for labor and materials, and shall further report to the Board at each meeting until the same has been completed. That this approval shall include such reasonable sums necessary for insulation, sheet rock green board, and framing necessary to accomplish the above.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualified Person/ Conflict of Interest 0

- 2) **Whereas**, the YSNY desires to proceed with the construction work of Phase 1 of the Panini Annex, and has gotten two other estimates for the Panini Annex renovation, now it is

**Resolved** that Andy's Electric/Saft Electric be hired to complete the rough electric including all inspections for a total cost of up to \$1000 excluding all fixtures for both bathrooms, lobby area and entranceway, all in accordance with the existing architect's plans, and a separate list of specifics, to be paid from the Panini Annex Fund and that Scott Moss and/or any Trustee is authorized to enter into an agreement, and Scott Moss shall have the authority, after discussion with Eve Kudler and/or Donna Carlisi to make additional minor changes, not to exceed the sum of an additional \$1,000.00 for labor and materials, and shall further report to the Board at each meeting until the same has been completed.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualified Person/ Conflict of Interest 0

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- 3) **Whereas**, the YSNY desires to proceed with the construction work of Phase 1 of the Panini Annex, and has gotten two other estimates for the Panini Annex renovation, now it is

**Resolved** that either Tom Burger or another sheet rock company shall be hired to complete the sheet rocking and taping for up to \$3000 for both bathrooms, lobby area and

entranceway, all in accordance with the existing architect's plans, and separate list of specifics, to be paid from the Panini Annex Fund and that Scott Moss and/or any other Trustee is authorized to enter into an agreement, and Scott Moss shall have the authority, after discussion with Eve Kudler and/or Donna Carlisi to make additional minor changes, not to exceed the sum of an additional \$1,500.00 for labor and materials if the ceiling in the proposed music room is done, and shall further report to the Board at each meeting until the same has been completed.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualified Person/ Conflict of Interest 0

- 4) **Whereas**, the YSNY desires to proceed with the construction work of Phase 1 of the Panini Annex, and has gotten two other estimates for the Panini Annex renovation, now it is

**Resolved** that Tom Burger be hired to install mini splits or electric heat downstairs after the final evaluation of the best way to heat the entranceway and bathrooms with a cost not to exceed \$1300 for materials and installation, to be paid from the Panini Annex Fund and that Scott Moss and/or any other Trustee is authorized to enter into an agreement, and Scott Moss shall have the authority, after discussion with Eve Kudler and/or Donna Carlisi to make additional minor changes, not to exceed the sum of an additional \$500.00 and shall further report to the Board at each meeting until the same has been completed.

Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 0 Disqualified Person/ Conflict of Interest 0

### **Closing Meditation**

**Announcement:** Next Board Meeting - Saturday, May 11, 2013 at 2 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Purnima Dillsaver, Vice-President

**Appended Below: Treasurer's Financial Report**

**YOGA SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC. AT ANANDA ASHRAM**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Treasurer's Report April 13, 2013**

**Fiscal year (Oct. 2012 – March 2013) Overview...** Looking over the Profit & Loss Statement for this fiscal year to date, a few very positive things stand out. Our Gross Profit is up 10% this year over last... \$189,697 compared to last year \$171,173. Guest lodging is up \$20,000 this year as compared to last year. Even with the brief interruption due to Storm Sandy when Ananda Ashram had to “close for business” for approximately two weeks, there are some strong indicators that Ananda Ashram is experiencing an upward trend.

Sometimes a breakdown of the percentages gives us a better idea how we are doing when we make a year to year comparison. Below are those percentages that show our growth.

Group Accommodations are up 10%  
Guest Lodging is up 33%  
Work Study is up 26%  
General Donations are up 50%

Although we do seem to be getting a bit stronger, we do have to recognize there are still some challenges ahead. The positive growth was offset by some areas as is shown below.

Yoga classes down 42%  
Resident Lodging down 12%  
Membership down 35%  
Meals down 28%

Two of those areas have been weak in the past as well. However, with the right intention I do believe we can turn this around. Membership needs a strong committee and committee leader who wish to develop our membership base with disciples of the Guru and those who feel inclined to support the guest experience Ananda offers.

We have discussed getting into the local community to offer our yoga instruction. I am convinced with the outstanding background of our yoga teachers, that the yoga instruction at Ananda far surpasses the yoga instruction available in local gyms. I do believe with the right guidance, we can get the message out and set an example for high quality yoga instruction.

At this time of year, our Net Income always shows in the negative. Ananda summers are our best income months. We catch up with our bills in July. However, I am pleased to report that although we are still in the negative -\$43,328, when we compare it to last year -\$65,107 we see a positive growth of 33%. This is important and encouraging. With all

the expenses of Storm Sandy, our legal and professional bills, and money spent on the roof repairs and minor renovations, the overall still shows an upward trend.

When facing our challenges, we need to remind ourselves that the efforts of the Board of Directors, HRC (the management committee) and the supportive staff are definitely something of which to be proud. Our goal is to continue to support the growth of those income areas that are already moving in a positive direction and target those areas that have demonstrated a negative trend.

One major financial concern which continues to linger is the lack of a conclusion to the negotiations over the Main House Addition lawsuit as well as the lack of sufficient fundraising to support the final costs of the building which came in over budget.

Monies that had been designated toward other projects had to be shifted to the Main House Addition leaving other projects either undone or postponed. We are not “out of the woods” so to speak where this is concerned but we are hopeful our lawyers will bring the negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion. We, as a board, reviewed every detail of the dynamics of fundraising and construction of the Main House Addition project and have taken notes of how we can proceed more diligently on our future projects. Life at Ananda is always a learning experience for each of us and as a whole and when viewed from that perspective we can move forward in a stronger and knowledgeable position.

The current Board has waited to complete the Panini Annex until the funds were “in the bank.” With the agreement of the Town of Monroe building inspector we have started the process of getting the C of O for the yoga studio/classroom. One can hear the “hammering away” at the Annex as the renovation is underway. We expect to complete the renovations sometime in June. As monies are earned from the use of the studio and from a fundraising effort, the music classroom and one other classroom will be completed. The major influx of money to support the renovations is a \$9000 donation from the ISEWU (International Schools of East West Unity). Other monies have been donated by kind and dedicated individual donors.

I do believe the addition of the Annex Studio will provide an opportunity for additional income. Teachers in our School of Music have been very patient. However, it is time to provide a specific classroom where our amazing and extremely talented music teachers can teach. Anyone wondering how he or she can help us in our effort to see the whole Annex completed can make a donation to the Panini Annex Funds. This donation will directly enhance our guest experience through music.

**Looking ahead...** There are other projects in our near and distant horizons which include but are not exclusive to the Shanti Sadanam (a building which will replace the Coops), Newman House property development, and the possible creation of a space above the Lake House Dining Hall. Each of these projects is needed and is being discussed. We are not fundraising for these projects until there is more constructive information and planning in place. I must repeat, our most immediate priority, if you are feeling to make a donation is the Panini Annex completion.

*YSNY Board Meeting April 13, 2013*

As a board member and treasurer I would like to acknowledge and extend my appreciation to all of you who have, over the years, supported our efforts, with your donations and your presence, to grow as a community and provide our guests with the best that Ananda Ashram can be.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Eve Kudler, Treasurer