

Attendance:

Abdullah, Joan;
Bentley, Mary;
DeHaven, George;
Filer, Carolyn;
Frank, Ginny;
Gluck, David;
Kato, Karen;
Kurka, Mike;
Matosz, Karen;
Matula, Diane;
McArthur, Elisa;
Niebruegge, Doug;
Parker, Jody;
Postgate, David;
Postgate, Gloria;
Ranous, Barbara;
Spooner, Don;
Steele, Jerry;
Veach, Dora;
Voight, Claire;
Voorhees, Linda;

4/1/2016 Membership Meeting

We had a membership meeting on Friday, 04/01/2016, at Bell Social Hall to discuss the future direction of the club and the plans to find a new teacher.

There was a discussion of the fact that we would like to find teacher who can uses the same style as Tao Sifu Franklin Wood, so we do not all have to start over. But there is also a realization that we may not be able to do that.

It was decided that we needed to create a short term, as well as a long term plan for the club.

Short Term Plans

The short term plan that was discussed and agreed on, was to have Linda Voorhees, one of our own students, lead all of the classes until such time as we can find a new teacher, hopefully by fall.

Tao Sifu has recommended one of his students, named Tammi, to come and take over his classes. But due to a family issue she may not be available until this fall.

Carolyn will also contact Tammi, to see if she can come and teach a class ASAP, so we can determine her commitment and how she will fit with our club.

It was also decided that we would like to create a 'bridge' class. The purpose of the bridge class will be to help students be able to learn the steps they need to catch up with the next ongoing class that they want to advance into. We may have to make Tuesday night be our only Beginner's class, so we can use the Thursday 11:30 class for the bridge class. It was also agreed that this class will originally concentrate on helping people who are ready to move into the more advanced students. The reason for doing this is to help move more people into the more advanced classes.

It was also agreed that the students want to continue to be invited into the next advanced class by the teacher.

It was also agreed that we may want to encourage the more advance students to attend classes at a lower level, in order to help provide a 'buddy' system for people who are trying to make that bridge into a new class.

It was also agreed that we continue our policy of students not trying to teach other students during a class, unless the teacher requests their assistance. It can become disruptive if we have too many people trying to teach at the same time.

There was a desire expressed to be able to have videos available of Section II provided by Tao Sifu Franklin Wood that people can use for practice. Doug volunteered (after the meeting) to talk to Tao Sifu about this possibility.

We also created a committee to help search for a new teacher. We want to organize the search so we do not have multiple students approaching the same potential teachers without realizing it. We will keep a listing of potential teachers, and any student who hears about a potential teacher can have his/her name added to this list. A person will be assigned to attend this person's classes elsewhere and/or to interview this person. A form will be completed with information about the interview. If a teacher appears to have possibilities, we will ask them to come and teach one of our classes, so we can get a feel for them as a teacher, and so the students can have a chance to provide some feedback.

Long Term Plans

It might be beneficial to the club to be able to develop our own teachers. So it was agreed that it might be good to hire a teacher this fall to help lead the more advanced classes, and try and develop more teachers out of those classes. We can use our own student leaders to lead the beginner's classes until such time as we feel we can take over the other classes with our own teachers. We would like to do this within a year.

This would allow the club to survive long term.

Carolyn Filer, President
The Sun City Tai Chi Club