



16 Aug 2020—Ad hoc Board meeting

Present: Andrea Chapman, Archer Harmon, Maya Horio, Jay Lindenberg, Mikio Yamashita, Trustee Ken Nakamura, Rev. Nari Hayashi.

Notetaker: Maya Horio. [Justin and Molly Kuramoto could not attend; they submitted their votes before the meeting against holding the in-person service.]

Meeting purpose: To decide whether to hold Ekoji's in-person service scheduled for Sun, 6 September.

Rev. Hayashi opened the meeting with gassho.

Discussion:

The Board discussed whether to hold the next scheduled in-person service is Sun, 6 September. The 7-day averages for VA, MD, and DC seem to be holding steady, but as we noted in deciding to cancel the Aug in-person service, a number of people in the metro region continue to travel to other states where COVID-19 rates continue to rise. In addition, the hondo roof is leaking, and we do not know if we can fix it before 6 Sep.

Sensei and other Board members expressed concern about a few sangha members who seem anxious and/or desperate to be able to return to the temple. If we continue to cancel the in-person services with no alternative, they might feel that the Board does not care about them. Listening to the Dharma talks online is valuable but cannot replace the human contact.

