

Abbreviated Report of the Space Visioning Group to the Council
June 15, 2008

The Space Visioning Group met on June 11, 2008 with Janet Bronstein, Joan Denman, Phyllis Mark, Mary Whetsell and Marion Buckley participating; Chris Prichard was out of town.

Marion and Janet reported on their phone conversation with Connie Brock of the Shambhala Center of Minneapolis regarding their process of moving into a new center building. It was affirming that their process reflected our thinking and values discussed thus far. In particular, their general values were presented:

General principles:

- › Goal of no conflict in the community (community = members).
- › Everybody would be heard and part of key decisions.
- › Key decisions would be made by community consensus. They had community meetings at each key decision point.

Process also had goals of:

- › Bring people with strong opinions into the planning group.
- › Anything that arises that keeps people from supporting an issue needs to be addressed.

The basic plan for a community gathering to discuss what to do when the lease is up for renewal in October was formulated:

- Likely date of Sunday, July 27, from 4-6 p.m.
- Posing the question of “Our lease is up in October, what would you like to see happen?”
- Format of community discussion to be a Talking Circle:
 - Go around the Circle and everyone speak their thoughts/feelings on the question
 - Goal is not to try to convince anyone of anything, just to hear each other
 - No responding or challenging what a person says
 - Be willing to trust the wisdom of the sangha to arise