

Final Draft

Minutes of PHANA Council

In-person meeting at Sevenoaks August 11 3-6pm

Members present:

Jan Rigsby, Chair and Secretary

Ann Norfolk

Cynthia Schwartzberg

Dottie Titus

Guests:

Adrienne Lubeau

Gary Volbracht

Anid Kiva (present only for PTH discussion in section)

Agenda Items:

1. Membership
2. Membership benefits
3. Membership Surveys
4. Pathwork Teachers Helper project
5. New Website Articles
6. Audio and Visual ideas
7. Personal Process

1. Membership

Membership stands at 55, and feedback is even stronger that the regular emailing of minutes and notes from Council is generating interest. Membership renewals contained notes of appreciation and confidence in PHANA becoming a vibrant and meaningful association.

The consensus was ‘We have their attention, now what do we do?’ meaning that there is dynamic within PHANA for the first time since our conception, and it will be important for us to keep it in motion.

2. Membership benefits

While this is not the only reason people join PHANA, it’s one of the advantages of an association. We continue to look at possible benefits for Helpers, however some of the items often suggested – like group medical insurance, malpractice and liability coverage, have required more research time than our Council members have been able to contribute.

It is crucial to have more help here. We need more volunteers for these projects as well as additional Council members. The projects, such as specific benefits, are finite in the sense that once a benefit program is outlined or contracted, the task is complete in terms of the volunteer effort. PHANA Council does not have the time to take these tasks on, and we request help from our membership here.

3. Membership Surveys

There is an increasing need to set up a survey of our membership in order to determine what kinds of benefits they want so that we are correctly focused on member interests. What are the real needs of our members?

We are working with the assumption that our members are looking for ways to give service and support as well as to receive.

Questions might include:

- What 3 things work well in your Helpership practice”?
- What topics or questions would you want to network with other Helpers about?
- What issues are brought forward or become apparent in the individual work that seem to resonate to a larger or group consciousness?
- Are you wanting to work with more workers?
- Do you experience a block to manifesting working with new workers?
- If you have moved through such blocks, what do you feel has helped you to do so??
- What do you offer potential workers that seems most valuable to those seeking a spiritual journey?
- Where do new workers or class attendees come from and how were they attracted to you in the first place?
- What is your sense of how your presence and your spiritual practice helps the plan of salvation, global energy, or simply the process of transformation? Another way of saying this might be, what is your unique spark of light?"

For instance, on Health Insurance, how many members would be interested at all, what kinds of programs would be preferred (HMO, Blue Cross, Dental), what are the criteria upon which you would make a decision – cost, convenience?

As guests at our meeting, Gary and Adrienne were asked what they would perceive as valuable. Gary suggested that emails about Helpership would be of interest to him as a Helpership student. Adrienne wanted nourishing connections.

Council members were interested in cross-fertilisation, the transportability of Helpership, keeping the grass roots aspect of Helpership free of organisational layers (“Keep the spark alive!’) and available economically so that we do not become an elitist group.

4. Pathwork Teachers Helper project

Andi Kiva joined us for this segment.

4.A. PTH Resignations

Dottie is ready to resign as PTH administrator. Other passions call to her, such as the Grant ideas described in the July 28 PHANA Council minutes and moving back into private practice as a Helper. Dottie has been focusing upon the Portuguese translations of the existing PTH documents, and she sets up users with user names and passwords once they have submitted references (anyone who is authorised by a Helper of a region to teach Pathwork is being given access to PTH at this time, at no charge). These tasks vary

depending upon how many people apply per week (it's running about 1/week) and how many documents are in queue.

Andi is also ready to resign. She has served as the 'document queen', proofing and finessing the aesthetic quality of the submissions. She described the process as taking about 15 minutes per page once the technicalities of the system have been memorised (that is, receiving documents and then putting them up onto the website and adding them to the indexes).

It will be crucial to get more volunteers for the PTH, especially an administrator who can oversee their efforts.

4.B. Non-English submissions

We have finally received our first non-English submission – and because we didn't have a procedure, it simply got mounted along with the rest of the Portuguese documents. Jan will arrange to have this submission translated into English, and in future we will require an English translation before mounting a non-English document.

Several of us have Eros for supporting non-English documents. This would benefit workers in North America who are not fluent in English and their Helpers, who would have a translated copy to work from. It also feels as if it would promote cross-fertilisation with International Pathwork regions. However, at the moment the PTH site does not have enough indexing capabilities to both segregate and organise the Portuguese translations, and our only solution is to bunch them into a category marked 'Portuguese'.

5. New Website Articles

Recently we have added articles to the PHANA website which relate to 'Second Phase' Pathwork. These are quite distinct from the kinds of documents that have been gathered for the Pathwork Teachers Helper. Would information, documentation, or essays on building a practice, making connections within communities, advertising and Internet opportunities which relate specifically to the practice of Pathwork be of value? Such articles would be more of a sharing of information than advisory or marketing.

There are a number of different levels of need. The suggestion here is to find some way to pool the experience of more senior or established Helpers for those who are just starting out, re-establishing themselves into a new community, or having some difficulties presenting Pathwork.

6. Audio and Visual ideas

Jan Rigsby has created a DVD of brief introductory presentations on Pathwork Concepts. Gary Volbracht produced DVDs for Susan Thesenga of HTP workshops she has led. It is possible to produce modest video DVDs with handheld cameras and PCs. This is an area where we might be able to assist our members in creating introductory materials for their own practice, and to exchange these with other Helpers.

Another suggestion was to create audio or video interviews with various Helpers, perhaps 10-15 minutes each as a collection. This would have value for people who are in remote areas and who have no idea what Pathwork might look like in a class, course or session. Such ideas might best be produced professionally by Pathwork Press, but getting some of these ideas into rough draft form may be something that PHANA is uniquely

positioned to accomplish. Also, a working set of CDs or DVDs would allow us to see if the idea has merit in terms of serving Helpers or workers.

7. Personal Process

The last portion of the meeting was spent working with the emotional process of members. It feels important to mention this in the minutes, as finding out what is true and real for each of us is at the core of our work as Pathwork Helpers and pathworkers. Minutes exclude much of the personal process work of Council members out of respect for their privacy, but PHANA Council work often brings up our personal issues, and there is space made for this work to be done together.

Minutes submitted by Jan