



Birken Forest Buddhist Monastery ('Sitavana')

Annual General Meeting – November 5, 2023, 9:30am PST

MINUTES – AGM 2023

1. WELCOME, MEETING PROCEDURES AND ATTENDANCE

AT BIRKEN: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Joseph Aiello, Rachel Telesmanick. **ON ZOOM CALL:** Hazel Plumbley, Alissa Smith, Dinko Simunovic, Peter Cheng, Chris Holcombe, Larry Breslauer. **VOTE BY PROXY:** Brent Styra

2. MINUTES OF LAST YEAR'S AGM (OCTOBER 30, 2022)

The AGM 2022 Minutes were accepted unread.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Naruemon Teneralli. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS APPROVED PRIOR TO AGM

A number of special resolutions came up for board consideration between November 2022 and October 2023. Special resolutions require an approval vote by at least four board members; the record of voting is shown below. Copies of all the approved Special Resolutions are attached to this report:

a) **Special Resolution: Ford F-150 Purchase**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

b) **Special Resolution: Diesel Generator Purchase**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

c) **Special Resolution: Garden Projects**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

d) **Special Resolution: K3 Renovation**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

e) **Special Resolution: Appoint David Roth Bookkeeping to Replace Tombe Herrington Accountants**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

f) **Amended Special Resolution: Tractor Shed/Storage**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

g) **Special Resolution: Water Storage Building**

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

h) Special Resolution: Diesel Generator Shed

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

i) Special Resolution: Kitchen Renovation

Approved: Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Teresa Wixted, Brent Styra, Hazel Plumbley, Leslie Hanrahan – RESOLUTION APPROVED (Unanimous)

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

a. Resident Monastics

Ajahn Sona continues in his essential role as Abbot and President of Birken Forest Buddhist Monastery. He has just completed his 35th vassa (rains retreat) and turned 69 years old in April 2023. Ajahn Sona made the well informed and thoughtful decision to reopen Birken this spring to guests after a three-year closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although we are again welcoming a limited number of in-person guests to the monastery, Ajahn Sona’s commitment to bring the Buddha’s teachings to people around the world has not waned. At the end of our fiscal year our online library of YouTube Dhamma talks and Livestream Q&As totaled 281, up 16% from the previous year, while our subscribers reached 25,404, an increase of 3,870 new subscribers, up 15% over the previous fiscal year. At the time of this AGM, the number of YouTube subscribers is now over 26,300.

After a summer break our weekly YouTube livestream Q&As returned in mid-October 2022. Ajahn Sona offered a Dhamma talk on October 9, 2022 entitled “[The Importance of Communal Harmony](#)” and another on October 23, 2022, “[How Civilization is Maintained](#)”, prior to the livestream broadcasts for those dates.

Ajahn Sona continued our end of year tradition by offering a 6-day Virtual Retreat on “[The Seven Factors of Enlightenment](#)” from December 26-31, 2022. The retreat included evening Dhamma talks and Live Teatime Q&As which provided the opportunity for people around the world to participate whenever it was most convenient for them.

In March 2023 while snow was still on the ground Ajahn Sona and Ajahn Jotipalo sat outside and shared a video conversation “[On Nature and the Mind](#)”, which was originally posted to Ajahn Jotipalo’s YouTube Channel, [Sauntering into Silence](#).

From May 1-15, 2023 Ajahn Sona led our first in-person retreat since March 2020. Meditators affiliated with Pacific Hermitage in White Salmon, Washington joined us for two weeks of Dhamma talks on “The 37 Requisites of Enlightenment”.

Meditators from Vernon, British Columbia, joined us at the end of May 2023 for a weekend retreat at Birken.

In June 2023, Ajahn Sona, Sister Mon, Ajahn Sona’s mother, and several Birken stewards travelled to Canmore, Alberta to join in the official opening of [Canmore Theravada Buddhist Community and Monastery](#). During the trip Ajahn Sona offered a [livestream Q&A from Calgary](#).

In July 2023, Ajahn Sona again joined Ajahn Kovilo and Ajahn Nisabho from [Clear Mountain Monastery](#), located in the greater Seattle area, for another interview on the [Clear Mountain YouTube channel](#). The subject is one of great interest to Ajahn Sona: “[Ancient Greek Monks and the Writing of the Pali Canon](#)”.

Sister Mon continues in her role as Senior Buddhist Nun. In early October 2022 she applied for her Canadian citizenship and was delighted to be accepted just a few months later. On March 28, 2023, she became a Canadian citizen. Also in March 2023 Sister Mon was interviewed by Dinka Pignon on the subject of “[Buddhism as Life](#)” which has been posted to Ajahn Sona’s YouTube Channel.

b. Monastic Visitors

Ajahn Sudanto and Tan Suddhiko from Pacific Hermitage in White Salmon, Washington, visited us from early December 2022 to early January 2023.

Ajahn Sudanto, Tan Suddhiko, and Tan Parimutto returned to Birken May 1-15, 2023 for the Pacific Hermitage retreat mentioned above.

We were honoured to have a number of monastics visit Birken in July 2023: Ajahn Tiradhammo from July 3-13, Ajahn Pavaro from July 12-16, and Ajahn Nando from July 19-28.

Ajahn Jotipalo travelled to the United States in April 2023 to visit family as well as [Empty Cloud Monastery](#) in West Orange, New Jersey, and [Clear Mountain Monastery](#) near Seattle, Washington. He returned to Canada in May 2023 to lead a weekend retreat at [Victoria Insight Meditation Society](#). From there he returned briefly to Birken and then headed off to California for a three-month hiking trek through Yosemite National Park and the surrounding areas. He returned to Birken in early September 2023. At this time, he plans to extend his work permit beyond June 2024 and perhaps apply for permanent Canadian residency.

c. Retreats and events held online

We give sincere thanks to the many Birken volunteers and supporters who helped us to organise our many online and in-person retreats and events this past year (August 1, 2022 – July 31, 2023):

Beginning October 9, 2022 – July 2, 2023	Live from Birken: Weekly Dhamma Livestream Q&A broadcasts on Ajahn Sona’s YouTube Channel
October 9, 2022	The Importance of Communal Harmony : Dhamma talk and Live Teatime Q&A with Ajahn Sona
October 23, 2022	How Civilization is Maintained : Dhamma talk and Live Teatime Q&A with Ajahn Sona
December 26-31, 2022	6-Day Virtual Retreat: The Seven Factors of Enlightenment – Dhamma talks and Teatime Q&As
March 26, 2023	On Nature and the Mind : Video conversation with Ajahn Sona and Ajahn Jotipalo at Birken

May 1-15, 2023	Pacific Hermitage 7-Day/14-Day Retreat(s) at Birken, led by Ajahn Sona: <i>The 37 Requisites of Enlightenment</i>
May 26-28, 2023	Vernon Group weekend retreat at Birken, led by Ajahn Sona
June 17, 2023	Livestream Q&A from Calgary, Alberta .with Ajahn Sona
July 10, 2023	Ancient Greek Monks and the Writing of the Pali Canon : Virtual interview with Ajahn Sona for Clear Mountain Monastery

d. Dana meals and guest totals:

As mentioned above, Birken re-opened to guests in May 2023; however, we have continued our policy of no day visits or in-person dana meals for the remainder of 2023. Instead for the past three years we have been blessed by the outpouring of Virtual Dānā Meal offerings (see our [Food and Materials Offering webpage](#) for more information). Between August 1, 2022 and July 31, 2023, we received 70 such Virtual Dānā Meals. Between May 1, 2023 and July 31, 2023 Birken welcomed 71 guests to the monastery for scheduled and personal retreats.

e. Renovations and construction projects

Our exterior Vihara insulation project was completed in August 2022. Cellular blinds were installed in all guest rooms and the wood panels removed in fall 2022 to add another level of insulation to the interior of the Vihara.

Landscaping continued throughout summer and into fall 2022 on our many garden projects, including a full renovation of our existing Vihara garden areas, refining the courtyard garden near Nimmita House, and the creation of the Ralph West Memorial Flower garden near the former parking area.

From September-December 2022, the covered walkway leading to the Vihara was enclosed in cedar and a metal roof added. Beside providing a beautiful new entry to the monastery’s main building, it also serves as a well protected area from rain and snow for residents and guests alike.

Spring 2023 brought not only the return of guests to Birken but also the beginning of a full and final season of building projects.

In March 2023 we purchased a new Kubota diesel generator to replace our present one which has expired after 25 years. This purchase will provide us with reliable, safe, and consistent electricity 365 days a year to run and support all of the electrical systems of the monastery.

Work began again in May 2023 on the many landscaping projects around the monastery. In just a few months we were able to construct a new moon gate entry to the Vihara covered walkway, a new and improved torii entrance gate, build cedar fencing around the north Vihara garden and stroll garden areas, plant a bounty of flowers and install secure fencing in the Ralph West Memorial Garden, plus create a flagstone terrace and walking pathway in the Nimitta Courtyard gravel garden.

The real push for our Japanese stroll garden and north Vihara garden came in September 2023 when monastics, stewards, and guests completed nearly all of the landscaping work in just over two weeks.

Included in this massive accomplishment are two bridges (including a curved Japanese bridge and one with set-in stepping stones), paved garden pathways, placement of large stones and boulders from around the property, fire safe gravel areas, and all garden plantings (including birch trees (Birken, by the way, means 'birch' in German), Saskatoon berries, evergreens, red twig dogwoods, lilacs, thyme, irises, forestland grass seed, wildflower seeds, and hundreds of daffodils. Next spring will see the completion of all garden areas with installations of water features and the relocation of Birken's Buddha statue from the interior sala (meditation hall) to its new shrine area in the Japanese stroll garden.

In early June 2023 work began on the renovation of Kuti 3 (K3), which was one of the two original kutis brought from Birken in Princeton to our current location in 2001. Renovations included the addition of a half bathroom (toilet, sink, hot and cold running water, and electricity), built-in storage closet, hardwood floors, new interior paint, new entry stairs and deck, new exterior siding and paint, plus internet access for visiting monastics or long-term residents. Exterior floor insulation and final details will be completed in late fall 2023.

Also in June 2023 we installed a new heat pump water heater in the kitchen to take advantage of the excess electricity we harvest in the summer months. Our propane water heater was kept and will now be our winter source for hot water.

July 2023 signalled the start of two other significant building projects at Birken: the construction of a sound-insulated building to house our new diesel generator and fuel tank, plus the start of a major kitchen renovation. This first phase of the kitchen project involves building a structure to house our two new water storage tanks, our two hot water heaters, water pressure pump, and relocation of our laundry room. The next phase of the project began in fall 2023 with work expected to continue well into spring 2024.

Please see photos of these major projects below.

Vihara Japanese Stroll Garden



Crane and Boulder Mountain



Japanese curved bridge and Saskatoon berries



Cedar fence and workshop siding



Cedar benches and gravel garden



Moongate



Torii Gate

Nimitta Courtyard Garden



North Vihara Garden



K3 Renovation



Generator Building



Kitchen Renovation/Water Building



f. Other news and concluding observations

This past year was one of many vehicle changes at Birken. As referenced earlier in our special resolutions, we purchased a 2017 Ford F-150 truck in November 2022, trading in our 2016 Toyota RAV4 as part of the purchase price. We were glad to be able to quickly pay off the bank loan we had on the Ford F-150 through the generosity of two donors who loaned us the remaining balance on the truck. Their private loan was repaid in July 2023 so no long-term debt carried over into the next fiscal year. Also to retire from Birken after many years of service was our 2005 Toyota Sienna van which headed off for recycling. We were delighted as well to pay off our 2019 Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV (Plug in Hybrid Electric Vehicle) in September 2022.

In January 2023 we launched the first year of [Birken's Upāsikā Secluded Study Program](#), combining elements of our earlier online program and other resource materials by Ajahn Sona. 140 applicants, ranging in age from 22 to 86, joined each other remotely at the start of the year from 20 different countries around the world. The 2024 program has 125 applicants from 23 countries, ranging in age from 18-76.

Looking ahead we plan to continue operating this monastery well into the future. What began in a shack in 1984 has proven to be successful into the 21st century. Next year will be Birken's 30th year in operation and we have prospered thanks to much volunteer effort and unsolicited donations. The monastery now has a worldwide following due to outreach through our Upāsikā program, videos and recorded talks by Ajahn Sona. Our in-person guest program, which re-opened in May 2023 after a complete closure for three years due to COVID, was fully booked with many people waitlisted as well.

Aside from these programs, we have spent the last three years improving the building envelope for efficiency, landscaped four separate significant garden areas, and secured our off-grid energy system. Our aim is to finalise all such projects involving building and landscaping so that the monastery functions as a quiet, meditative environment from 2024 forward. The Abbot has prioritised this completion project in time for his 70th birthday in order to focus exclusively on the teaching of meditation and Buddhist principles through books, videos, and in-person retreats.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Our 2022/2023 fiscal year began with record inflation and recession concerns which rippled out to all areas of our financial landscape. The continued closure of Birken due to the COVID-19 pandemic for first nine months of the fiscal year allowed us to continue focusing on our construction efforts in a last big push towards their conclusion before the Abbot's 70th birthday, as he mentioned in the President's report above. This effort drove our capital expenditures up considerably, yet our donations managed to stay ahead of the rising tide of costs. Birken continued to bloom thanks to Ajahn Sona's vision and commitment to the Dhamma expressed in our physical monastery and the virtual monastery offered on his YouTube channel. This tandem reach to in-person guests and tens of thousands of viewers and listeners around the globe allowed the monastery to thrive. The outstanding generosity of donors, stewards and other supporters through all these conditions enabled Birken to conclude the year in a very positive economic position.

Before diving deeper into our financial statements, I want to clarify that since we have moved our bookkeeping and accounting services to a new firm, the appearance and some categories of the financial statements will be different from previous AGMs. We have also streamlined our chart of accounts for ease and less complication. That being said some comparisons from last year may not be readily available for this AGM. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

REVENUE

First, some very positive news: total income for the year came to \$612,637, an increase of \$189,496 (up 45%) from the prior fiscal year. This tremendous increase was due primarily to an extraordinary gift of \$300,000 from one very generous donor which went directly to our Endowment Fund, our investment portfolio under the stewardship of Nicola Wealth Management. This fund, which finished off the last fiscal year at \$626,279, grew to \$1,008,777 by the end of April 2023, an increase of 61% in just nine months. Thanks to this remarkable influx of \$314,620 in total donations, plus a moderately balanced investment portfolio, the fund finished off 2022/2023 with a balance of \$986,212, up 57% over the close of our last fiscal year.

With the return of guests to Birken, donations are again flowing in by way of in-person cash and cheques, as well as continued electronic and wire transfers from a number of our donors. The majority of our gifts, and quite literally our bread and butter, comes through the online donation website [CanadaHelps](#). Thanks in large part to the sustaining contributions of nearly 200 monthly donors, our CanadaHelps donations reached \$138,723 representing 22.6% of our total income.

DEBT/CAPITAL ASSETS

The remaining loan on our 2019 Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV was paid off in September 2022. A short-term debt of \$20,000 was incurred in November 2022 with the purchase and subsequent personal loan

necessary to buy a 2017 Ford F-150. That debt was retired in July 2023 so no long-term debt will carry over to the next fiscal year.

As mentioned earlier in this report, several major construction projects were begun in the past year. These include the renovation of Kuti 3 (K3), addition of a diesel generator building, kitchen renovation including a new water building, plus renovation of the entire landscaped area surrounding the Vihara. The purchase of our new diesel generator is also an important capital asset which will sustain and support the monastery for many decades to come. Total assets, including cash and capital improvements over the years came to \$1,959,137, an increase of \$229,587 or 13.3% over last year.

EXPENSES

Besides Inflation and supply chain issues impacting our capital projects, we also experienced increases in our day-to-day expenses as a natural result of re-opening to guests and therefore the need for more food and household items. As mentioned earlier, many of our bookkeeping accounts were consolidated into fewer expense categories. Groceries, restaurants, paper goods, sundries, and monastic personal expenses were combined into a "Food and Household" category. The total for those expenses came to \$84,647, our largest single cost centre outside of capital projects.

In this last fiscal year, we completed our Vihara exterior insulation project and began work on the four large capital projects mentioned above which will endure for many decades to come. By the end of July 2023, these constructions costs totalled nearly \$115,000 and continued to rise well into fall 2023.

Total expenses for the year came to \$386,478, an increase of 33.8% over last year's total of \$288,849. Based on a 10-year average of our total expenses, we've calculated the average daily cost to keep Birken running. Last year that amount was \$500 per day. This year the new amount comes to \$552 each and every day to cover our expenses (please see our [Support webpage](#) for details and to learn more about where your donations actually go.)

NET INCOME

Even with these many construction projects, and in large part thanks to the generous and continued support from the friends of Birken, our net income was in the positive range, totalling \$288,849 for this fiscal year. Please see the attached financial statements for more information.

SUMMARY

As we've mentioned over the years, Birken Forest Buddhist Monastery continues to operate thanks solely to the bountiful and sustaining support of hundreds of benefactors from around the globe. Each and every donation, whether it be \$5 or \$500,000, contributes to the benefit of our resident monastics and stewards, as well as the entire Birken community to whom it is dedicated.

Now that Birken has again opened its physical doors to practitioners, the continued need for funds to keep those doors opened has not waned. The remainder of 2023 and well into summer 2024 will entail considerable expenses to wrap up our construction projects and put the final touches on our grand garden landscape. Day-to-day expenditures, further development of our virtual monastery, maintaining our existing buildings and off-grid energy systems require sustainable monetary support.

Our Endowment Fund has already allowed us to pay for necessary materials and services this fall to bring these projects closer to completion. We see it also as a safeguard should future emergencies

arise; however, that fund alone cannot support Birken's daily requisites of food, medicine, clothing, and housing. The monastery has only continued to operate these many years through the benevolence of extraordinary donations, those of \$5,000 or more. Without such sizable gifts, Birken will not survive. These large donations, as well as our lifeline of monthly gifts, must continue to grow to ensure the preservation of the monastery for its lay community, and thereby enable Birken's monastic sangha to live and share the Dhamma with us all for many years to come.

The Financial Statements as circulated and presented were accepted.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Joseph Aiello. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

7. MOTIONS

- That the Proposed Board of Directors (changes from previous term) be elected or re-elected:

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Thomas West. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

- That the proposed new signing authorities for monastery financial transactions be approved.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Naruemon Teneralli. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

That David Roth Bookkeeping be reappointed our accounting firm for the next fiscal year.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Naruemon Teneralli. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

- That the 2024 AGM be held at Birken Forest Buddhist Monastery and/or virtually on Sunday, November 3, 2024, 9:30am PST.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Joseph Aiello. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn Birken Forest Buddhist Monastery's 2023 AGM.

Moved by Teresa Wixted, seconded by Thomas West. Motion carried: 10 approval votes.



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A Registered Canadian Charitable Society: BN 89263 5483 RR0001

E-MAIL: meditate@birken.ca | WEBSITE: <https://birken.ca>

ADDRESS: 7000 Smith Lake Forest Srv Rd. Knutsford, British Columbia ° Canada ° V0E 2A0 | TEL: +1-778-785-6059

SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby authorize the purchase of a Ford F-150 vehicle from a Ford dealership in Kamloops up to the price of \$50,000, including tax and license, less the trade-in value of our 2016 Toyota RAV4 and a down payment of approximately \$10,000, with the balance to be financed through Ford for monthly payments of approximately \$580 per month for 24 months at a rate to be determined upon purchase of the vehicle.

Date this 3rd day of November 3, 2022

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

Leslie Hanrahan, Director at Large



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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby authorize the purchase of a 21W Kubota diesel generator, breaker, block heater, battery charger, and any other required attachments, inclusive of shipment to the US border for us to pick up, taxes, etc. with the estimated cost of \$26,500 CAD, based on today's USD to CAD exchange rate.

Date this 19th day of February, 2023

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

Leslie Hanrahan, Director at Large



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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby approve

- the continuance of work on the Ralph West Memorial flower garden, Nimitta House courtyard garden, Vihara Japanese stroll garden, renovation of existing garden areas, and fire suppression measures around the monastery property not to exceed the cost of \$100,000. Please note that a similar special resolution was approved in 2022 for a budget of \$100,000. This new resolution is in addition to last year's approved project.

Date this 4th day of July, 2023:

Thomas West

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

Leslie Hanrahan

Leslie Hanrahan, Director at Large



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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby approve

- the renovation and addition of a washroom to K3 (Kuti 3) for costs not to exceed \$20,000.

Date this 4th day of July, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

Leslie Hanrahan, Director at Large



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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that Tombe Herrington Chartered Professional Accountants LLP be replaced by David Roth Bookkeeping (www.rothbookkeeping.ca) and thereby be appointed our bookkeeping/accounting firm for the current fiscal year.

Date this 4th day of July, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

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AMENDED SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby amend

- the May 10, 2022 Special Resolution authorizing construction of a tractor shed/workshop with costs not to exceed \$50,000. This amendment would cancel such construction and instead approve the purchase of a tractor shed/storage unit in 2024. Estimated budget not to exceed \$25,000.

Date this 15th day of October, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby approve

- the construction of a water storage building attached to the south side of our Vihara (main building). This new addition will house additional water storage tanks, a new water pressure pump, hot water heaters and related mechanical devices. It will also be the new location for our laundry room. Estimated budget not to exceed \$40,000.

Date this 15th day of October, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby approve

- the construction of a diesel generator and fuel tank shed to house the new diesel generator approved earlier this year in addition to a new larger diesel fuel tank. Estimated budget not to exceed \$40,000.

Date this 15th day of October, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

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BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY ('Sítavana')

A Registered Canadian Charitable Society: BN 89263 5483 RR0001

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SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BIRKEN FOREST BUDDHIST MONASTERY

Resolved,

that we hereby approve

- the renovation of the monastery's kitchen, including extension of the roof and porch off of the kitchen, relocation of cold room to upstairs kitchen area, new refrigerator, new range hoods, remodel of cold room to accommodate guest use, and other items still to be determined. Estimated budget not to exceed \$60,000.

Date this 15th day of October, 2023:

Thomas West (Ajahn Sona), President

Naruemon Teneralli (Sister Mon), Vice President

Teresa Wixted, Secretary/Treasurer

Brent Styra, Director at Large

Hazel Plumbley, Director at Large

Leslie Hanrahan, Director at Large