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JIKISHOAN TEMPLE PROJECT

Match-the-Pledge #3

Insert #12, BSCM #9 02.12.17

Great News! The Building Permit for Jikishoan's Home Temple in Heidelberg has been approved. Our contracted builder estimates it will take 3 – 4 months of his time to get to lock-up stage, and he has started work. We are grateful to Deniz Yener-Korematsu for all her work towards getting the permit approved.

Looking back over the last two years, the goals and expectations of the Building Sub-Committee have been adapting to circumstances. Here is a quick review:

Building project activities and fundraising started in 2013, and had expanded by Spring 2016 to also consider a possible country property. Several suburban and country properties were considered by Jikishoan's Committee and rejected for various reasons. Among these was the realisation that market prices are beyond our grasp at this stage, even with pooling funds from the Building Fund and other Jikishoan accounts. The Jikishoan Building Fund as at 1 December 2017 totals \$273,000.

Undaunted, in late 2016 Ekai Osho began preparations for construction of a Home Temple, to anchor the continuation of his lineage in Australia, with the support of his family. The tax-deductible Jikishoan Building Fund has various conditions preventing its use on a property not owned by Jikishoan. Therefore, since early 2017, our fundraising efforts have been directed toward supporting the Home Temple Project, through the non-tax deductible Abbot's Support Fund. This Home Temple will address many of the

requirements for replication of the Footscray Zendo and will enable official recognition of Jikishoan with Sotoshu (Soto Headquarters) in Japan.

Our long-term goal is still a country or city property, fully owned or leased by Jikishoan Zen Buddhist Community.

Meanwhile, as at 2 December, we have nearly raised our target amount of \$34,000 for Match-the-Pledge #3. Thank you to all who have contributed and also for some very creative fundraising ideas, such as Tom Vincent's Jazz 'gig' which has raised a total of \$610 (included in above MTP#3).

Donations to this Match-the-Pledge project – closing on 25 December 2017 – can be made via cash, direct deposit or cheque/money-order payable to the *Abbot's Support Fund*.

For more information or direct deposit details please contact Iris Dillow from the Building Sub-Committee at 03 5259 3616 or irisdillow@gmail.com.

With deep gratitude for your continued enthusiasm, contributions and interest in actualising our dream of having a Temple home.

Gassho,

Iris Dillow
on behalf of the Building Sub-Committee