

**Sept. 29, 2013**  
**CIC Town Hall Meeting Minutes**

In attendance: Lay Leader Kathleen Peppard, Town Hall Facilitator Kathy Pruitt, Children and Youth Coordinator Nika Keller, Finance Shepherd Eve Fagergren, Clerk Hal Spencer; Connections Committee members Pat Starzyk and Dick Hauser, Scott and Trina Bishop, Jo and Thad Curtz, Penny Purkerson, Cheryl Dailey, Betty Hauser.

**Actions taken:**

1. At Kathleen's suggestion, Town Hall agreed to sign on in support of locating a Low Barrier Shelter in downtown Olympia. The support is contingent on agreement from CIC members, who are to be notified and asked if they agree. Notification will be via e-mail and phone calls for the few without e-mail access. A deadline to respond is Friday, Oct. 4. **(See attached)**

**Discussion:** About 40 small businesses and at least one faith community have signed a statement of support for locating the facility in downtown Olympia. The City Council will hear the proposal soon. CIC was invited to sign the statement. Kathleen brought it to Town Hall. Town Hall's agreement includes a request that the statement be changed to reflect that support comes from organizations beyond just businesses.

2. Nika reported that attendance at the children and youth programs is very low, especially the Youth Group. After discussion, Nika said she would set up a meeting with parents of youth to discuss and determine the cause and seek solutions to keep the youth program viable.

**Discussion:** Nika reported that while Youth Group has eight potential participants, the number showing up is almost zero. Town Hall decided parents of the eight, as well as the youth themselves, should be asked if they will be coming and what might be done to make Youth Group more attractive or relevant, if either is an issue. If Nika determines that interest is just not there, the future of the funding provided to have a Youth Group should be part of upcoming budget discussions.

3. Kathy and Betty gave updates on the Care Groups. Kathy raised the issue of whether Town Hall felt there is a need for oversight and a process for starting Care Groups for CIC members who need ongoing help. After some discussion, Town Hall agreed that for now the committees, which form organically when people feel called to form them, are working well.

4. Town Hall agreed to a proposed 2014 budget prepared by Eve and further agreed to proceed with plans for a pledge drive to begin in mid-October to lay the groundwork for a more carefully considered budget at Annual Meeting in January. Town Hall agreed to table until next year an issue raised by Betty – shouldn't the community act on a budget before a budget year starts? Or as close to the start date as possible?

5. Town Hall agreed to consider replacing or reducing the cost of the expensive telephone landline at the CIC office. One issue would be that CIC would no longer be listed in the Yellow Pages. Thad Curtz agreed to gather information on alternative ways to make CIC known to the community and also to find cheaper alternatives to the current landline.

## Reports

1. Kathleen presented the minister's report. **(see attached)**
2. Nika presented the Children and Youth Report **(see action item above.)**
3. Kathleen reported on behalf of the Call Shepherd that the latter will seek to fill a call in which the CIC member will act as the contact and organizer when our host church asks for volunteers for maintenance of the church grounds.
4. Pat reported completion and circulation of the annual community evaluation of CIC, adding that it went well. The report will be posted on the CIC's website and made available on the mail table at celebration **(see attached report.)**
5. Eve presented the budget report, which showed income and expenditures to date pretty much in line with expectations.
6. Kathleen reported that the 2013 Fruit Sale is on, and proposals from potential recipients of Fruit Sale money will be heard and decided at a Special Town Hall on Oct. 13.

## Other business

Minutes of the previous Town Hall were summarized and approved.

## Attachments

CIC Town Hall Report 9/29/13  
Kathleen Peppard, Lay Leader  
Last Town Hall Report 6/2/13

## Summary:

Summer leave (see below)

TUCO work party – 4 CICers attended (Hal, Jo, Penny, me). Jen as call shepherd is going to look for someone to take on the call of being the contact person with TUCO.

Upcoming projects:

1) Listening Circles – In the End-of-life group at CIC, we have been bearing witness to the stories of loss amongst our members. We've gone from having extended check-ins for those who have had a loss to inviting members to using a larger chunk of the

meeting to tell their story. When Hilarie H returned from her mother's funeral, we called a special meeting of the EOL group to witness Hilarie's story; in addition, Hilarie invited some others from CIC. The EOL group met this week and decided to offer this ritual to the rest of CIC. For the time being we are calling it "Listening Circles". The intention is to offer this to members of CIC who have experienced a death of a loved one or end of life issues. The basic format would be allowing the person to tell her or his story and offering a group to provide a holy container. (The individual could include or request inclusion of some spiritual readings or practice if desired.)

1. Clearness Committees: Discussion of the above led me to thinking about the Quaker tradition of Clearness Committees, where a person on the verge of making a life decision or struggling with a personal issue could explore that in the context of a group that would listen whole-heartedly. This is perhaps something we could offer as a community to one another. If anyone is interested in learning more about this, please let me know.

2. Question for consensus about the People's House: See attachment

The Details:

**End of 2012-13 theme "Transitions"**

6/9 Family Kirtan with Tammy Putvin

9/16 Transition Sunday – KP

9/23 Summer Solstice picnic at Bentleys' farm

**2013-14 theme: "Hearing the Call: Gifts, Grace and Destiny"**

**Celebrations:**

9/1 Flagler cel. Kathleen Peppard
9/8 Reunion Sunday/Rosh Hashanah KP
09/15/13 Yom Kippur Ramona Marshall, Miriam Sterlin
09/22 Labyrinth walk/Equinox/harvest-Hugh O'Neill
09/29/13 Lectio Divina and Dreams KP

Second celebrations & misc. - Harvest Potluck 9/22

**Meetings/groups/functions attended:**

Tuesday meditation group - regularly except when on leave in the summer

hosted Dinners for Eight 8/17

Women's spirit circle 8/20

Fort Flagler retreat 8/30-9/2

End-of-life group 6/5/, 9/18, 9/26

Celebration planners 6/4, 8/28

PC book group 6/11

Social Justice committee 6/15, 9/14

CIC potluck 9/22

Dinner Out – 9/19

+ individual meetings with CIC members and celebration leaders

#### Connections with the Larger Community:

6/22 Pride parade (this year we had volunteers who staffed a table with TUCO all afternoon – Betty, Karen T, and Ted Ryle helped with set up

9/11 I attended and participated in Interfaith Works' 9/11 gathering. (Several other members of CIC were there: Karen Tvedt, Barbara Gibson, Julia Moore.)

9/21 TUCO work party

#### Professional education

In July, I attended a one-day workshop with Buddhist teachers Tara Brach and Jonathan Foust on relationships.

Later in the month, I attended a weeklong workshop “Wellsprings” at Naramata Centre in BC, Canada, a camp run by the United Church of Canada, led by a Rabbi (Laura Duhan Kaplan) and an Episcopal Priest/spiritual director (Don \_\_\_\_\_)

Annual leave: I took 3 weeks of annual leave, 1 week of professional leave and 2 weeks of unpaid leave this summer. There were no CIC emergencies in the time of my absence. We'd set up a safety net with CIC “chaplains” available in the event of a death and volunteers to cover various functions. Setting this up was almost as much work as going on sabbatical but I am hoping that, with a structure in place, next year will go more smoothly.

### CIC Evaluation Report 2013

The evaluation was conducted at celebration on June 2, 2013. Most of the forms were completed at the celebration, but a few came in later. Total number of questionnaires received: 35. **NOTE: We (the CIC community) had many different individual responses to these questions. This report only includes those cases where 3 or more of us had the same (or similar) response.**

#### A. CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

1. Do you have any children in the programs? If so, what grade(s)?

**Yes 12; no 23. Note: this probably doesn't represent 12 different children, since both parents could answer separately. A mixture of grades was represented.**

2. If your children are part of the programs, what has been good/useful and kept them coming?

**Children/youth keep coming because they have friends in the program. Also, they like the teachers.**

3. If you have children or youth who could be, but are not part of the programs, why do they do not participate?

**Children/youth didn't participate because their friends stopped coming or because they had homework to do.**

4. What might increase the likelihood of their involvement?

**Children/youth might participate more often if their friends came or if they had a project, like a service project, which they were responsible for.**

5. Do you get what you want or expect out of the Children and Youth programs at CIC?

**Yes 8; no 1; not sure 1**

6. Do you and your family have access to and are you informed about the Children and Youth Programs?

**Yes 12; no 4.**

7. What concerns or question (if any) do you have about the Children and Youth programs in the past year?

**We were concerned about the sporadic attendance and the fact that we pay for the teachers, but the children/youth don't come.**

## **B. LEADERSHIP**

1. Celebrations: What have you liked? Not liked?

**This year we particularly liked hearing different voices (both within and outside CIC), music, dancing, and poetry.**

**We were divided on meditation; seven of us thought meditations were too long and three of us specifically mentioned the meditations as a 'like.'**

2. Did this year's theme (*Exploring different aspects of transitions*) interest and engage you over the year?

**Yes 27; no 2.**

Comments ranged from 'We could do it again' to 'The theme doesn't really matter.'

3. Comments about Kathleen's work over the past year?

**We all loved Kathleen's work this past year. Several of us noted how wise, genuine, gracious, and inviting she was and her great sense of humor.**

### **C: TOWN HALL**

1. Have you attended Town Hall meetings this year?

**Yes 11; a few meetings 9; no 14.**

2. If you haven't attended, what keeps you from attending?

**Two things kept us from attending: we had family commitments (dinner, homework, or other plans) or it made too long a day.**

### **E: OVERALL STATE OF CIC**

1. How long have you been attending CIC?

**<1 year: 2**

**1-4 years: 4**

**5-9 years: 8**

**10-14 years: 3**

**15-19 years: 2**

**20+ years: 16**

2. What are your thoughts/concerns/ideas about how CIC has been for you this year as a community?

**By far the largest number of us (17) reported that we felt welcomed, supported, and taken care of by CIC in the past year. Some of us had concerns, which are noted in #3c, below.**

3. Below are some continuing issues for CIC. Please give us your thoughts

a. Do you feel like we are a welcoming community? If not, what can we do about it?

**Yes 24; no 1.**

b. Do you ever feel excluded at CIC activities? If so, what can we do about it?

**Yes 2; no 22.**

c. Are there any other issues you feel we need to address?

**We were concerned about:**

- How new members figure out what's going on at celebrations, since so much is unwritten and new members may have trouble figuring out how to get involved**
- Not having enough social time/potlucks**
- How or if we should grow the community**

Submitted by the Connections Committee:

Dick Hauser 451-4896 [rdhauser@comcast.net](mailto:rdhauser@comcast.net)

Penny Purkerson 357-5840 [pennypurky@yahoo.com](mailto:pennypurky@yahoo.com)

Pat Starzyk 357-3556 [gardenstar@comcast.net](mailto:gardenstar@comcast.net)

9/29/13 Town Hall proposal from Kathleen Peppard: That CIC signs on to the downtown support of creating The People's House, low-barrier homeless shelter, in the downtown core.

**STATEMENT:**

**Downtown Businesses Support the People's House**

We, the following Downtown Olympia businesses, are writing this statement in support of The People's House Project. As community members who own and operate businesses in the areas directly affected by chronic homelessness, untreated mental illness, drug abuse, alcoholism, and associated behaviors, we feel strongly that a solutions oriented approach is needed. A low-barrier shelter Downtown would have an immediate, positive impact on our businesses and our neighborhood. We applaud the City of Olympia and Council for its commitment thus far in helping to make the People's

House a reality. We encourage Council to make this project a priority, and ensure that not another cold and wet winter goes by with our storefronts utilized as the primary shelter option for anyone. We offer you our gratitude and support toward this end.

Public · 3 Collaborators · 1,897 views

Created on Aug 18 · By [Rob Richards](#) · Updated Aug 30

Adam Market

Al Forno

Bar Francis

Bearded Lady Food Company

Black Moon Collective

Breathe

The Brotherhood Lounge

Buck's 5th Avenue

Caffe Vita

Capitol Florist

Carras Cabinets

Danger Room Comics

Darby's Cafe

Dinea DePhoto

Don't Stop Printing

Dumpster Values

Fertile Ground Guesthouse

Fire & Earth

Frida Salon

Intuitive Being - Mandy Zabohne LMP

K Records

King Solomon's Reef

Last Word Books

Le Voyeur

Magic Kombucha

Matter! Gallery

Mystical Remnants

Ninevah

The Northern

Old School Pizzeria

OlyBikes

Olympia Alano Club

Olyphant



Orca Books  
Peacock Vintage  
Phantom City Records  
Precious Metalsmith

Quality Burrito  
Radiance  
Rainy Day Records  
Tamale Fusion  
Traditions Fair Trade  
Wind Up Here  
De Colores

EMAIL FROM CONNIE PHEGLEY (my neighbor and co-owner of Old School Pizzeria)  
The people's house project recently met with opposition by downtown banks and developers and then pretty fierce opposition on the eastside when they looked at several properties. this list is not exhaustive, it's been sort an organic effort from 2 or 3 downtown business owners who don't want the ODA, developers and property owners to solely run the conversation. there is not really a 'downtown neighborhood association' that represents the majority of downtown businesses. as the people's house heads back to the downtown core to rethink a location, they want to make sure there is a simple way to demonstrate broad support for their project to be located downtown. This list has been read at a city council meeting, widely shared on facebook and has been published in the olympia power and light newspaper. other than that, because it has not been a formal process from an organized group it just sort of roams and ends up with whomever is interested.

united churches is signed on. CORRECTION: NOT TUCO BUT FIRST CHRISTIAN

let me know if that helps.

Connie

