

Town Hall Minutes November 19, 2017

Kathy Pruitt opened the meeting as Town Hall facilitator

In attendance were Dick and Betty Hauser, Jo Curtz, Kathy Simmons, Ted Ryle, Patti Logan, Ramona Marshall, Jan Rocks, Hilarie Hauptman, Karen Ray, Kathy P, Corey Passons and Penny Purkerson.

Minutes from September meeting were read by Penny and approved.

Corey gave his Interfaith minister's report:

Am just days home from an 11-day trip in the Holy Land. This trip was part of an early developmental effort between myself and the tour company, Faith Journeys, to develop an interfaith trip to the Holy Land in April of 2019. The trip was a deeply reflective and, at times, emotional experience that brought me into the spaces and places which are formative in the Hebrew and Christian biblical accounts. These experiences, as well as learning about the tensions of religious co-existence in Israel/Palestine, have given me much to consider in my interfaith work with CIC.

Am continuing to look for ways that I can incorporate opportunities for ritual and engaged spiritual work in the celebrations in forms that stretch beyond the traditional modality of lecture/sermon. Will be looking to additional trainings in the coming year that might assist me in this endeavor and also will be looking to see what methods or techniques exist within our community that members might want to share with me.

Feeling a little bit behind in two areas...filing for celebrations from last year (that is, needing to gather the materials and lessons from persons who led other than me) and in making meeting times with new/newer members. Will be working on both of these agenda items in the coming weeks.

Ongoing gratitude for this community which supports my development and growth.

(He also kept a blog while he was in the Holy Lands and will post a link to it in Wavelinks. April of 2019 may be when he leads an Interfaith tour.)

Treasurers report by Jan R: (See attached)

1. We will incur a savings because we are not renting the Coach House for Christmas Eve this year. Dec. 24th is a Sunday and we will be at TUCO for the celebration.
2. We have 13K still to be pledged to meet our 2018 budget. 41K pledged so far and 54K needed.
3. We also have \$4500 left over from the year of LeeAnn and Jan's interim leadership.
4. We have 7 first time pledges in so far!
5. All pledges must be in by Dec. 31, 2017. Then the 2018 budget can be put together and reconciled before the January Town hall.
6. Annual meeting will be Jan 28th.

Youth and Children's Program Coordinator (YCPC) report by Karen R. (See below)

The program is going well. We had 16 children and youth last week—the highest number in several years. Some were visitors (Patti's great grandkids, Isaiah's friend). The increase is mostly in the grade school classroom. We have three people who have volunteered to help Trina when that class get unwieldy—Betty, Thad, and Annie. So far, one of them has always stepped forward when needed. If we keep growing, we'll be needing a middlers group in the future.

The grade school program has been running late, a combination of me planning too much for the timeframe and the extra kids causing activities take longer. So I am working to scale activities to better suit our age span, numbers, and timeframe. This means having some extra activities for kids who finish early, and maybe some alternate activities for younger, wigglier kids. Also, we've had trouble getting kids reconnected with their parents at the end of Celebration. This causes Maisie and Trina to wait in the classroom for parents to arrive. So we are returning to our old system of bringing the kids back to the social hall about 6:30. I've informed parents of this change, and ask for their help encouraging kids to be quiet and respectful when they return to the social hall, especially if the Celebration is running late. I'm hopeful that Maisie, Trina and I can clean up and get out at a more reasonable time with these changes in place.

In the preschool and grade school rooms this past month, we've explored the Day of the Dead, The Golden Rule, Buddhism, and Thanksgiving. The youth have visited with the temple's youth group and the UU youth group.

Call Shepherd Report by Hilarie:

We are in need of:

1. Community Needs Coordinator, as Karen Ray will be stepping down after 8 years. We are looking for a volunteered (can be mentored by Karen) to fill this slot. Someone who is flexible and have time for when the needs are strongest in the community is recommended. A description of the position will be available soon.
2. Celebration Flower Volunteer(s) to add occasional flower beauty to our center candle lighting table.
3. A volunteer to join the Welcoming Committee is needed, as Karen Ray needs to step down from her role.
3. Town hall Regulars who are willing to attend monthly meetings perhaps on a seasonal or year long basis.

The guest book will be used to ask new folks if they want to be in the directory.

Thanks to Hal Spencer for signing up as an Audio Volunteer to help determine how to create better listening environment for persons who have hearing issues in our large CIC circle.

Fruit Sale has a robust team of four; Karen Ray, Alan Hardcastle, Scott Bishop, Kathy Kinard and John White.

I am looking for an archived version of a description list/data base for the various calls on the CIC Call List, to help members get oriented as to what is asked for in the different calls. I will update in the next couple of months and then make available.

Social Justice committee report by Betty:*

1. They will be doing the MLK Sunday celebration for the houseless, (new language). They hope to have a speaker.
2. Is anyone interested in finding out about the Thurston County cold weather task force and joining it if possible?
3. Betty would also like to see us endorse the, Olympia Charter for Compassion, a city wide stance to resist violent behavior and enhance civil respect. See charterforcompassion.org. People can go to site and add their names individually and CIC will consider a community endorsement on Jan 21, 2018.
4. The Interfaith Works shelter needs donations of coats and blankets, water resistant helpful.

Upcoming events:

1. Tue. Dec 5: meeting of the Faith Network for Immigrant and Refugee Support at Temple Beth Hatfiloh(TBH) at 6pm. This is a group with representatives from many local faith communities. Discussion of the Mutual Aid Resolution for Unity.
2. Sat. Dec 9, 1:30: Social Justice Committee meeting at Hausers. MLK planning and other updates.
3. Fri. Feb 2, 5pm: Eye2Eye, fundraiser for the Interfaith Works shelter.
4. Tue. Feb 13: Homes Fund election to decide if the city will collect a 1/10 of 1% sales tax to fund housing and some housing support.

Fruit sale report by Karen R.

We placed our orders for fruit and chocolate this past week. We ordered slightly less fruit and chocolate than last year, which means we should net slightly less profit than last year, *assuming we sell all of our product!* Orders have significantly dropped off this past week. We need people to keep on selling so we can sell our inventory and meet our fundraising goals! Last year, we raised \$4,400. This year, we're hoping for \$3,750. Totally doable if we can sell everything we ordered. Despite the best efforts of Scott and myself, we are still having troubles with the on-line ordering system (not visible to customers). Next year, the team should re-evaluate the system and maybe come up with an alternative.

Kathy P. reviewed our CIC Endorsement policy, (to be included in the guide book)

We changed the word “members” in line 3 of the document to, “the community.”

As it stands now, we ask everyone in CIC to approve an issue before we make an endorsement.

There is a Preferred Method and an Expedited Method: (See Procedure for CIC Endorsements, for exact language.)

1. Under the Preferred Method, the request first goes to Steering Circle and then is shared community wide by email, Wavelinks and celebration announcements. Then the proposal goes to Town Hall for a consensus vote.

2. The Expedited Method is used if there is a time sensitive issue that arises before Steering Circle or Town Hall can meet. Steering Circle would review the issue by email and if approved the proposal would go by email to the community for comment. After 1 week of time, if there are no objections, we would endorse the proposal.

We also added the following language:

3. If someone has concerns about an endorsement, we would talk over the issue and see if it could be resolved. If they continue to not support the endorsement, we would ask if they are willing to step aside. If they want to block the decision, then individuals, a committee and/or the pastor could all endorse the proposal on their own.

4. Corey asked that we do more conversations around the consensus model and how it relates to membership and non membership. A special meeting may be called to do this.

We discussed what to do with the \$1000.micro-loan money we gave from the fruit sale, (2 or 3 years ago), that has come back to us and is now available for another program. Kathy P. presented a 501c3 program called KIVA that is helping in Haiti through OFAM, where we decided to send the money next. The money will go to community farmers to “help strengthen their buy and sell activity to boost their cash flow.” With this loan, 47 members will increase their economic activity over 18 months. KIVA has a 4 star rating from Charity Navigator.

Next Town Hall is Jan 21, 2018

Meeting adjourned.