

CIC Townhall - March 14, 2021 Minutes

- **Welcome and Agenda:** Sarah Huntington, facilitator; moment of welcoming and silence; review of agenda.
- **Attendance:** Corey Passons, Sarah Huntington, Carol and Jamie Rainwood, Jan Rocks, Kathy Pruitt, Leanne Tourtillott, Thad and Jo Curtz, Dick and Betty Hauser, and Karen Tvedt.
- **Minutes from February 21, 2021 Townhall:** Karen Tvedt provided an overview of the February Townhall minutes which are posted on the CIC website.
 - Leeann Tourtillott and Carol Rainwood will begin a call to update photos on the CIC website; Corey is looking for a volunteer to help revitalize our Facebook presence.
 - Corey continues toward ordination and is considering participating with a UCC Global Missions Committee. He will keep us posted about the UCC's annual meeting in late April.
 - Sarah reported that Corey's contract has been changed to make it continuous until ended by CIC or him. This will address discontinuity between his contract and the CIC budget year.
 - Call Shepherd: Carol noted that she and Leeann would welcome another volunteer or two to work on the photo project.
 - Children's Programs: Miriam Sterlin is reaching out to families anticipating the time when CIC will again meet in person.
 - Community Support Team: Sabra Hull noted that she and Vonda Witley are happy Al Gilliom has joined their group on a trial basis. They would welcome another volunteer or two.
 - Regathering: Corey is tracking what other congregations are doing, Steering Circle is in ongoing discussion, and input will be sought from the larger CIC community.
 - Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws: Sarah and Karen Tvedt will review these for possible changes.
 - Open and Affirming Language: Corey proposes that a small group update our language and bring it back to the community for discussion.

Townhall Reports:

- **Interfaith Minister Update**-Corey Passons
 - *Reopening:* Corey noted that things are looking optimistic for reopening; he will increase his outreach to colleagues to find out what other faith communities are doing. Two upcoming CIC events are typically outdoors: the solstice potluck (6/20 this year) and our Labor Day gathering.
 - Thurston County is moving into Phase 3 and United Churches' reopening plans say they won't be comfortable with indoor gatherings until Phase 4 plus.
 - Issues raised in discussion included: desire to support United Churches' comfort level; need to follow CDC guidelines; possibility that there may be people in CIC who won't be getting vaccinated; possibility that we could do hybrid gatherings with some people in person, others participating electronically; and there's a barn near Leeann that may be a place to meet.
 - Shelley Bentley is comfortable with us doing a June 20th event outdoors at her place. Steering Committee will work on planning for the 20th including what it takes to keep

people safe, e.g., no food, distancing, masks??

- There is interest in the possibility of a one-day retreat Labor Day weekend. Corey and the Steering Committee will explore possible outdoor spaces for such a retreat.
- Now that Corey is approved for ordination (congratulations Corey!), he would like to do an in-person ordination/installation, hopefully outdoors in late August. This will be an opportunity to acknowledge Corey's ordination in the context on the CIC community. He anticipates 50 or so non-CIC guests.
- The CIC Racial Justice Initiative group has met twice. The first step is to develop a statement of intent that will be submitted, discussed, edited, and affirmed by our community.
- Corey is taking on two-year position on Global Missions Committee which begins this Spring.
- Emelyn Keller has volunteered to work with Corey on Social Media in providing updates about CIC.
- Jamie Rainwood suggested that we have a standing post in Wavelinks about being an open and affirming community; the Wavelinks is another place where we can explore "naming the divine."
- Easter Celebration: Corey and Penny are collaborating on a plan to livestream the celebration from Kathy Pruitt/Mark Collins' home. Corey asked about interest in an after-Easter Celebration zoom brunch. Several alternatives were discussed including the possibility of doing something like dinners for eight. Steering Committee will discuss.
- **Finance Report:** Jan Rocks reported that we have received \$11,663 in income, spent \$9,412 and have a net of \$2,251 in our budget year so far. At this point, we have 84% of our funds available with 83% of the year remaining. We paid our UCC dues for the year (\$1,760). Jo Curtz suggested that we include a permanent note in Wavelinks about where pledges should go (Nika Keller).
- **Call Shepherd:** Carol Rainwood reported that she and Leeann are starting the photo project this week; she is reaching out to Gene Maltzoff and Ryan Stephens about volunteering to be Ft Flagler Retreat Directors this Fall (assuming we can meet this year). She talked with Shelley Bentley about doing the solstice event at her place and Kathleen Peppard has joined the Community Care Committee.
- **Children's Program:** Corey reported that Miriam has been reaching out to families and providing "Play Packs" of educational materials to maintain connections. She intends to start a pen-pal program between kids and established CICers. The middler group is strong with Sarah providing active support. This summer, Miriam will be searching for new teachers for the children and youth program. She is discerning the possibility of doing an online, family-friendly Seder; with Sarah H, plans are underway for an egg dyeing/Easter egg hunt event outdoors.
- **Social Justice:** Betty Hauser reported on several upcoming events/opportunities to participate including Race & Civic Engagement Dialogue, March 27th 9:30-noon (link in Wavelinks); Lacey Cultural Festival on March 27th from 10-6:00 pm (on-line); an initiative by Brian Hovis to bring an environmental reporter to the Olympian; and the Virtual Hunger Walk (information in Wavelinks). Scott continues to work on construction of tiny/micro houses.
- **Community Needs:** Sabra Hull and Vonda Witley have been joined on the Community Needs committee by Kathleen Peppard. Al Gilliom continues to discern ongoing involvement.
- **Connections:** no report this month
- **By-laws and Articles of Incorporation:** Sarah reported that she and Karen have been reviewing

these documents and will consult with the Secretary of State about possible changes. Some inconsistencies have been discovered regarding the Steering Circle, legal officers and distribution of funds should CIC disband; there are also provisions that are inconsistent with how CIC now operates.

Brief updates:

- **Benevolence Fund:** no updates about alternative funding, but this isn't an urgent issue since we have enough money in the Benevolence Fund to cover food purchases for the Community Kitchen this year. Leeann will contact Gene about the feasibility of doing another salmon sale.
- **Audit:** Corey has contacted colleagues with Concerned Clergy for feedback about audit processes and is looking at a UCC document for guidelines. Issue is pended until May.

Meeting ended at 8:00 pm.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- April: Easter-April 4th; Passover-March 27th; Steering Circle-April 7th at 4 pm; Town Hall, April 11th after celebration
- May: Steering Circle May 5th at 4 pm; Town Hall, May 9th after celebration
- June: Steering Circle June 2nd at 4 pm; Town Hall June 6th after celebration; possible solstice celebration-June 20th