

CIC Townhall
November 21, 2021, after Celebration
Zoom Meeting

Welcome and Agenda Review: Sarah Huntington opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda with attendees.

Attendance: Corey Passons, Sarah Huntington, Penny Purkerson, Jamie & Carol Rainwood, Jo & Thad Curtz, Jan Rocks, Karen Tvedt, Julie Baker, Sabra Hull, Betty Hauser, Leeann Tourtillott, and Jan Vleck

Review of the October Meeting Notes: Karen Tvedt

Racial Justice Centering: Judy Olmstead summarized an article written by Rev. Stephen G. Ray, Jr., *The Cash Value of Whiteness of Whiteness as a Tax-Exempt Status*. Rev. Ray writes that Black persons and communities pay taxes, but often don't receive proportionate benefit from these payments. Among examples are lower appreciation of house values in Black neighborhoods, lower rates of home ownership, education funding less (often tied to property values), and costs related to unwarranted police attention. [White-Privilege-Curriculum.pdf \(ucfiles.com\)](https://ucfiles.com/White-Privilege-Curriculum.pdf)

Minister's Report: Corey Passons

- Planning has begun for upcoming holidays. Corey anticipates online celebrations relying primarily on music and approaches from last year.
- **CIC Space:** CIC office has been moved from the Hauser's to TUCO. One more sorting party will be needed. Huge thanks to Betty and Dick for hosting the CIC office for so many years.
- **Update on Racial Justice Work:** Subcommittees continue to do their work; over the next couple of months there will be CIC community surveys to help guide this work. The community feedback period has ended on the revised open and affirming statement. The subgroup will review the comments received and bring a revised draft to the next Townhall meeting.
- **Regathering:** Corey noted that he longs to be back in person...but safely. Chanting in the social hall is going well. More later.

Budget: Jan Rocks

- **The regular budget report** shows our income at \$49,190 and expenses at \$44,465. With 16% of the year left, 22% of our budget remains (some personnel costs are still outstanding). Our assets total \$44,903.
- **2022 Draft Budget:** Jan reviewed the current "fat" 2022 budget proposal which has a bottom-line of \$62,129. It includes a 3% pay increase for Corey and increased hours for Miriam. There are still outstanding questions around hiring and hours for the children's program. Pledges are at 77% of the goal. Jan and Jacob Skeers will begin contacting people about pledges in a few weeks.

Call Shepherd: Carol Rainwood

- We welcome OUR NEWEST MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT TEAM: JULIE BAKER!! There is still a need for another volunteer to help coordinate efforts to help CIC members who are experiencing a need for assistance (such as rides to appointments, meals, shopping, visits, etc.).
- We are still looking for a special, detail-oriented person to UPDATE the CIC BYLAWS & ARTICLES Of Incorporation.
- THE PHOTOS FOR UPDATING THE CIC WEBPAGE are continuing to be collected and will be added once they are organized. People are encouraged to send photos of CIC in-person events that would be fun to share in Wavelinks and on the website.
- CALL DESCRIPTIONS project: is about 60 -70% completed. The goal is to have them collected and ready to share by the Annual Meeting in January.

Connections: Sarah initiated discussion about suggestions from the CIC annual evaluation.

- Questions were raised about welcoming newcomers to celebration as well as awkwardness during the opening segment on zoom (some people greeted, others not). Among the possibilities discussed were reinstating a team of greeters (a possible call); and doing a new member/participant coffee or tea.
- It was suggested that Steering Circle be given more authority to make decisions (to streamline Townhall meetings). While supporting Townhall's role in CIC governance, there was discussion about ways we might streamline our processes including increasing access to meeting materials, e.g., putting a summary of minutes in Wavelinks, asking for written committee reports, making budget documents readily available. Steering Circle will process these ideas at its next meeting.

Community Support: Sabra Hull reported that the team is doing ok; appreciating that Julie Baker has joined the group.

Social Justice (SJC) Report: Betty Hauser reported that the committee met on Nov. 20th and discussed the work of the Racial Justice Subgroups; the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, *Resetting the Sacred Table* (link to the recording will be included in Wavelinks); a donation drive for Unity Commons (information also in Wavelinks); and plans for a MLK Celebration.

Salmon Sale/Benevolence Fund: Leeann Tourtillott and Jan Vleck

- With thanks for Gene Maltzoff's generosity, CIC sold 450# of salmon and netted \$3,482.
- Townhall participants expressed consensus about these funds being designated for community kitchen expenses
- After the 2022 annual meeting, there will be discussion about diversifying our approach to how we fund the Benevolence Fund.

Regathering: Sarah Huntington and Corey Passons

- Corey introduced the question of when and how we might explore the issue of in person gatherings; do we wait or proceed in some way?
- Extensive discussion ensued about options including the possibility of meeting in the social hall at TUCO (Corey will follow-up to learn what criteria TUCO is using); and meeting outdoors or in another space such as the TUCO sanctuary or at Unity.
- Information was shared about what other groups are doing: Peace Choir made special masks (Sabra Hull recommended special N95 masks instead); Unity is doing contact tracing; and Nalanda is doing small gatherings with special air filters (Corey noted that TUCO has such filters in the social hall). Other possibilities suggested were doing another survey, an article in Wavelinks, and experiments in regathering (which seemed to have support).

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Dates for future SC and TH meetings:

- **December:** Steering Circle-12/7 at 7 pm; Townhall-12/12 after celebration
- **January 2022:** Steering Circle-1/5/22 at 7 pm; Townhall-1/9/22 after celebration
- **Annual Meeting:** 1/30/22
- **February:** Steering Circle-2/23/22 at 7 pm; Townhall-2/27/22
- **March/April:** Steering Circle-3/30/22 at 7 pm; Townhall-4/3/22
- **April/May:** Steering Circle-4/27/22 at 7 pm; Townhall-5/1/22
- **June:** Steering Circle-6/1/22; Townhall-6/5/22

Issues for Next Month (in addition to usual agenda items):

- **Racial Justice Centering:** Corey will coordinate.
- **2022 Budget Proposal:** status of pledges
- **Open & Affirming Statement:** Revised statement presented to Townhall.
- **Townhall-Steering Circle Processes** (streamlining?)
- **Regathering:** Ongoing assessment and discussion.