

RE Council Meeting Minutes – October 16, 2016

Attendees:

Mia Noren, Carol Cowan, Callie Cone, Dan Lillie, Benita Terrell, Kristen Kennedy, Nicia Rae, Hannah Stephens, Desiree Spielman, Stirling Crow

Chalice Lighting and Opening Words (Benita): "Every morning we are born again. What we do today matters most." - Buddha.

Administrative Agenda

- Review and approve September REC minutes
- Chair Report – Geri (absent)
- Staff Reports – Mia (attached), Colin, Angela (absent)
- Portfolio Reports: Benita, Nicia, Desiree, Stirling, Callie, Carol

Administrative Reports

Geri wasn't here today.

Mia Noren, Director of Religious Education:

1. Until the floaters list is full, Alana and I will continue encouraging people to sign up as floaters. There are now three floater slots per time period.
2. It's starting to be time to plan for next Spring's UUSC Guest At Your Table program. The theme this year is "Defying Hate".
3. I want to get an early start on recruiting for Spring teachers. Some regular RE teachers may take a break in order to facilitate OWL classes. We'll need to fill those gaps.

Recruitment Discussion and Action Items:

- Assistant Sign-up:
 - We discussed strategies for bringing in parents. We decided it would be a good idea to ask parents to be assistants. It's less daunting than being a "co-teacher". We will also explore the idea of creating a sign-up sheet for November and December...
- E-mail To Targeted Parents (Not Currently Volunteering)
 - Stirling will reach out to Alana and request an email list of the parents who are not currently volunteering.
 - Stirling will craft email and send to Mia for review.
- Encouragement/Request From Current Teachers:
 - Stirling will reach out to Alana and request an email list of the other teachers.
 - Stirling will craft an email to other teachers requesting that they ask other parents to be an assistant (since we will have a shortage

of teachers due to OWL in the Spring). He will craft email and send to Mia for review. (Stirling will also request that the teachers let him and Mia know the parents that were spoken to).

- OWL Parent Survey
 - Mia is trying to get a headcount on who is teaching OWL for which class and if that person is a current teacher (to see which spots we will need to fill).
- 4. A survey of OWL teachers has been sent out asking folks about their availability. Not much response, so will probably ask Callie to follow up. Next step is a parent survey asking who will send their kids to an OWL class in, probably, January.
- 5. At the next Board meeting, Christine will let Board members know that Camp and Kid's Choirs have been added to the responsibilities of the DRE, mainly so that all programs can be addressed by the same child protection policy, which is being refined. I don't foresee much extra work being generated by the choirs.
- 6. I wanted you all to know that other DREs across the country have indicated interest in the way our RE Council functions, and I was asked to share the model to include in the DRE Roadmap, a collection of information meant to help DREs run their programs in the best manner possible.

Portfolio Reports

Benita Terrell, Program Evaluation: I do not have anything at this time.

Callie Cone, OWL Liaison

- We wanted to do the Parent meeting in December (instead of after the New Year). This would be December 18th for the Informational Meeting (after the 11 service). And... perhaps a pulpit editorial a week or two before.
- We will probably not have an RE Council meeting on December 18th.
- One other thing we need to consider is the size of the classes - to ensure we have enough teachers.
- OWL will happen after 11 o'clock services. Is 8 weeks long for K-1 and 4-6.

Nicia Rae, UU Kids Camp Liaison: There isn't much going on for camp right now. Our next meeting won't be until after the holidays.

Stirling Crow, Recruiting: Nothing new to report for Recruiting for this month!

Desiree Spielman, Community Events

- We cancelled the picnic on November 6th - lots of folks are going to the Marigold Parade.
- Meeting with Colin to firm up details about the Halloween Dance - Saturday, October 29th from 6 - 9.
- December 4th - RE Picnic.

- One big lunch for those involved in RE - December 11th.
- Winter Swim Party (Jan or Feb?)

Carol Cowan, Curriculum Team

- Mia and I met on Oct 4 to discuss the curriculum for Spring 2017.
- Attached is the curriculum chart. The highlighted portion is what has been used through Fall 2016. We are working on an extended curriculum map through Spring 2019, which will be sent for the Nov meeting.
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Upcoming Events

- October 29th - Halloween Dance. Appropriate for all ages. Show up in costumes, cakewalk, make a mummy, bobbing for donuts. Food: Frito pies. Sale of tickets goes to OWL. People need to bring stuff for the cakewalk.
- October 30th - Halloween Costume Parade for the children during the service!
- November 6th - Day of the Dead Parade in the South Valley. All are welcome to come and celebrate with Geri!
- November 15th (Sunday) - RE Council Meeting.
- December 4th (Saturday) - RE Picnic
- December 18th (Sunday) - RE Council Meeting.
- December 25th - No RE.
- January 1st - No RE.
- Field Day - First Sunday in June.