

## RE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 21, 2016

Present: Geri Knoebel, Mia Noren, Angela Herrera, Carol Cowan, Desiree Spielmann, Alisa Cooper de Uribe, Nicia Rae, Benita Terrell. Absent: James Galasinski.

Began: 12:30.

### Administrative Agenda:

- Chalice Lighting and Opening Words by Mia.
- Approved January Minutes.
- Confirmed 2016 meeting dates on third Sundays.
- Next meeting scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>; gather at 12:15 and officially begin at 12:30.
- Alicia Cooper de Uribe, as representative of the Board, is attending to express the Board's appreciation of the REC and to offer its support. They have an "open willingness to be here for us in whichever way we want to communicate." Geri emphasizes that it's important to maintain a good relationship with the Board.
- Agreed that Secretary will send minutes to Geri within 3 days after the meeting. Portfolio Reports are to be sent to Geri by the Sunday before the next meeting. She will compile agenda and reports and send them out to everyone several days before the meeting.
- Geri will be sending out the Resource book with some newly added reports, as well as a revised Teacher's Manual – within a couple of weeks.
- James is not here because he is teaching OWL. He will no longer be a regular attendee at RE meetings.
- Angela will miss the May meeting due to visiting a church in San Diego.

### Staff Reports:

- Angela: They've been assessing Children's Chapel to come up with a new template for it, similar to what is there now, but with more consistency to direct the kids' energies a little better. Susan Peck is taking an active role in shaping the group. Spirit Singers will become an anchoring group for the Children's Chapels singing a mediation song each time.
- James:
  - March 11-13, James will be leading the MDD Chaplain training for youth and adults that work with youth in Fort Collins.
  - April 8-9<sup>th</sup>, the UU church in Los Alamos is having an intensive OWL Cluster (all churches in NM) Con for grades 10-12. Our youth are invited to attend.

- April 22-24, 2016, we will be providing space for the MDD (Mountain Desert District) Youth Conference, but our involvement is minimal. It's a weekend long event. There will be programming for all high school youth even though we don't have any youth that are bridging. We need to make the effort to be involved in District activities.
- Mia:
  - The Council is still looking for 2 members for the Buildings and Grounds Liaison and Recruitment portfolios.
  - District-wide OWL facilitator has been scheduled for September (???) at our church. It will require 3 classrooms. Considering holding RE classes outside.
  - OWL classes are running for grades K-1 and 4-5. OWL for 7-8 was cancelled due to lack of interest. Mia is planning a dinner or lunch for the OWL facilitators, at the conclusion of their classes, to discuss how the classes went.
  - A job description has been written for the Youth Programs Coordinator (YPC) and is awaiting final approval.
  - Teachers' Luncheons will be reduced to once a semester mainly because turn-out is low. Money could be better spent having a higher quality meal once a semester. The luncheons are a way for us to support and thank teachers and to help build community. It also gives the teaching teams some intentional time to connect.
- Nicia talked about fund raising for UU Kids Camp Scholarships

	2015	2016
Income from Banks/ Curtis Endowment F*	\$1,400	0
Pulpit Editorial	5,500	5,500
Funds from Social Justice Council Silent Auction	na	1,500
Anonymous gift to make up shortfall	500	
TOTAL	\$7,500	\$7,100
Fund raising	-	500
Scholarship request	\$7,500	\$7,500

- The Banks-Curtis Fund is a designated endowment fund. Income from this Fund is used for scholarships. These funds accumulated over the last 3 years and totaled \$1,400..
- If we could count on \$5500 from pulpit editorial, it would leave us about \$500 short. Next Sunday's bake sale hopefully will make up for that. Maybe the camp folks would like to sell the drinks. Do we need to fundraise all year, with little fundraisers or one big fundraiser?
- Mia will revise Youth Coordinator job description to make the work look a little less intimidating. The job will pay \$10/hr for 10 hours a week including most Sundays.

- Playground Rules #2 will be reworded to say “Do not be come distracted by talking with other parents or with your phone.”
- Tree Permission slip form approved.
- Generosity will be the RE theme in March.
- Children will bring canned good throughout the month and they will serve as substitute “Easter Eggs” during the traditional hunt on Easter. Then children will walk their “eggs” over to the food pantry so they can officially be donated.
- Geri will initiate the “Read to Me” book donation program. Collection boxes will be in the lobby, social hall and office. RE kids will put labels in the front of the books. This will also be considered to be a Social Justice activity as a goal of the project to help improve child literacy.
- At Our Table – UUSC fund raising project for kids to safe change at home.