

RE Council Meeting March 19, 2017 Minutes

Attendees: Geri Knoebel, Mia Noren, Carol Cowan, Desiree Spielman, Nicia Rae, Benita Terrell

Future Dates

- RE Council Dates: Sunday, April 23rd, Sunday, May 21st

Future Dates and Activities

- Sunday, March 31, April 1 & 2 - Bridging Youth Con in Ft. Collins, CO (Will probably not happen because of lack of registrants). Angela has reached out to the Bridgers to plan something for May 21st. Colin may plan trip for them.
- No April Pool Party
- April 2nd – Spaghetti Lunch is at 12:00
 - Playground cleanup at 1:00
 - Dessert Social at 2:00 for those that helped clean-up. People will be invited to bring desserts.
(Desiree will talk to Alison about changing the event so that all of First UU families are invited and for creating an event on First Unitarian page.)
- Sunday, April 9th - OWL facilitator lunch
- Sunday, April 16 - Easter Canned Goods hunt; teacher holiday
- Sunday, April 23rd - Coming of Age Service
- Sunday, April 30th - Earth Day – **Cancelled** (Sustainability Fair on May 14th instead)
- Sunday, May 7 - First Sunday RE Family Picnic (folks bring their own lunch),
 - Pizza Sermon for youth (after services)
 - Congregational Meeting at 2 PM.,
- Sunday, May 14 - Last day all RE classes
- Sunday, May 14 – Sustainability Fair
- Sunday, May 21 - Mini-camp (rising 3rd graders to high school), bridging is also happening.
- Sunday, May 21 - lunch or dinner with Youth Advisors (tentative).
- Sunday, May 21 -RE Families and Volunteers Annual BBQ & Activities (from 5 to 8p)
- Sunday, May 28 - (Memorial Day Weekend) Teacher Holiday
- Sunday, June 4 - Field Day
- Sunday, June 11 - Summer RE Begins, Worship in the Wilderness
- August 6th - Teacher training, first day of Youth RE
- August 13th - First day elementary classes start in Sanctuary with Teacher Litany delivered by Angela

Portfolio Reports

OWL

- Elementary OWL is finished. Mid-high will finish at end of this month.
- Carol will be sending OWL evaluations out for Benita.

RE Council Reports

Geri Knoebel, Chair Report:

1. Reviewed important dates through June.
2. Develop Covenant – tabled for next meeting?
3. Decision to send minutes out shortly AFTER meeting, rather than shortly BEFORE next meeting.
4. Child protection behavior policies will clearly state that sexual behavior is prohibited between anyone, adult to youth, youth to youth. Heather Clark said kids sign a covenant when they go to camp, but they don't always abide by it.
5. Discussed recruiting more people for the RE Council, perhaps a dedicated “member at large” that can help out where needed. Geri will now interview potential council members before acceptance on to the Council. Members need to understand that a commitment is necessary – to attend meetings and follow through with tasks.

Mia Noren, RE DRE Report

1. There is an attendance imbalance between the 9:30 and 11:00 services. How can we get more families to come at 9:30? One problem is that La Amikoj is only offered at 11:00. It has been offered at 9:30 before, but was not well-attended because kids like to sleep in. Could we extend the hours from 9:30 to 12:00 to that social time is built into the class?
2. We are always short on Youth Advisors. When they do sign up, they don't want to come to training. They just don't do it even though they can view the training online. It's not like being an RE teachers; it's more of being a mentor. No one can be an advisor if they have child in the program at the time.
3. Have always to integrate technology into the RE program, perhaps some kind of UU game. Carol will talk to Kevin Baker (Christine's son) about it.
4. \$200 was stolen from church office. Looking for ways to secure money.

Desiree, Community Events: Will talk with Allison about re-posting Spaghetti Dinner so that everyone can be invited.

Nicia, Camp Report

1. Still looking for a nurse. Ideally, the resigning nurse could train a new nurse at camp this year. Could we look to Los Alamos and Santa Fe for a nurse volunteer?
2. Considering inviting other congregations (like Los Alamos and Santa Fe), although they have never accepted our invitations in the past.
3. It is not easy to access camp registration from the UU website.
4. An actual FB event with dates and links would be helpful.

Carol Cowan, Curriculum

New music program being implemented in August 2017. There are two programmatic ideas, both of which will be used in the beginning:

- One will take place in the chapel foyer at 9:15 and 10:45 and we'll sing with children that arrive early. Parents will be invited to stay.

- The other will be a rotation of volunteers going to one class every Sunday to sing.

Benita, Evaluation Report

Carol will assume responsibilities for evaluations this Spring.

Mia Noren, Buildings and Grounds Report

1. An intruder has been camping out in the La Amikoj, Arnold and Wesson rooms. All the carpets and soft furniture will be replaced in those rooms due to age, wear and tear, and smell. Chairs will stay.
 - a. An 8' fence is being installed along the grassy field and an extra section of fence between ARC and our property.
 - b. There will be an extra course of wrought iron around La Amikoj courtyard.
 - c. Fixing and repairing stuff around South Garden gate.
 - d. Heavy chicken wire has been run on the outside of the wooden fence by Memorial Hall.
2. Bathrooms will be enlarged and improved. There will be access from all the rooms without having to go through any rooms.
3. Playground Refurbishment proposed to update equipment. Desiree will look into getting grants over the summer.
4. The Buildings and Grounds portfolio is still not filled. Carol suggested splitting the job into two portfolios: one for Buildings and one for Grounds.

Colin, Youth Program Coordinator

1. Dan came to La Amikoj with good ideas about how to keep them more engaged. More avenues for social time separate from RE.
2. Looking at poetry curriculum for fall.
3. Mid-High is beginning their culmination of building a social justice project. They want to go to Roadrunner on some Saturday.
4. Colin should be closer to the top of the agenda since he needs to leave earlier.

Action Items:

1. Colin should be closer to the top of the agenda since he needs to leave earlier.

Geri's - Input from Search Committee Process

1. RE doesn't need more staff; it needs more hours for the staff it has.
2. Youth Coordinator needs many more than 10 hours.

Geri Knoebel, Chair

Senior Minister Search Process

As you are aware, the Ministerial Search Committee has recommended Rev. Angela Herrera to be our candidate as our next Senior Minister. Today's *Special Messenger* is devoted to the Senior Minister search.

The next activities are the Candidating Week from April 30th to May 7th. Candidate Week is from April 30 to May 7th. There will be a variety of forums to learn more about Angela and her visions for the church. You would have an opportunity to interact with her about any of your questions or concerns. On Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 am to noon, Angela will be meeting with RE families, volunteers, Mid-High and LaAmikoj. You can find the full schedule on page 11 in this document.

The Special Congregation meeting is May 7th 2PM to call Angela as our senior minister. According to our by-laws, quorum is 30% of our membership which is about 250 people. 80% affirmative vote is required for her to be our senior minister. Mark your calendar. Your vote is important.

Childcare Manual

Mia, Alana and I finalized the revision to the *Childcare Manual*. This was in preparation for the next First Aid class for childcare staff, which is in the process of being scheduled.

Mia Noren, DRE Report

1. The Easter morning can hunt was a big success. We donated approximately 190 cans of food to the food pantry.
2. Guest at Your Table wrapped up this month. We don't have a final count yet, as we are allowing a couple of weeks for folks who forgot their boxes to continue to bring them in, but so far we are over \$1200.00
3. I held a lunch for OWL facilitators at O'Niell's Pub in Nob Hill. It was well attended and a good time was had by all.
4. I am planning to hold a lunch for youth advisors- dates are Sunday May 30 or Sunday June 11. I haven't heard back from everyone yet.
5. Meghan, Meara and I are working on the Coming of Age Service, for Sunday April 23 (today!)
6. Bridging Con happened, although I've had no feedback yet. Angela & I (& Susan) working on Bridging service May 21

7. Planning for the summer is underway. The elementary kids will be doing essentially the same program, but I think I want to separate the PK-2 from the 3-5, so that the youngest and oldest kids get the most out of it that they can. Am working with returning member Lin McNickel on a program for youth, and a music program based on protest songs for multigen youth through adults with Susan. Portfolio Reports.

Carol Cowan, Curriculum

- All of the evaluation forms (Benita's portfolio) are currently being reviewed by Mia and Angela.

Callie Cone, OWL

1. All OWL classes are completed. Mia and I have to get together for an evaluation of this year's program. Mia is working with Angela on evaluation questions for parents and such on this and other programs.
2. H.S. OWL was cancelled this year. We are looking forward to offering it next year when the 9th graders who wanted to take it will be old enough

