

Minutes
BRIDGE Committee (zoom), June 16, 2021

Attendance: Bob Bunton, Linda Capone-Newton (chair), Anne Coughlin (scribe), Karin Elofson, Karen/Lulu Friedman, Rev. Will Green, Tookie Harris, Andrea Rosenberg, Joanne Sterling

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes of April meeting approved as distributed.

Unfinished Business

1. Wabanaki—(and anti-racism more broadly) discussion around how to move toward action. What is our goal as a church community? Based on interest in the ideas suggested by the PIC anti-racism task force at our last meeting, decided we would explore more formally becoming part of that task force. Rev. Will will reach out to Marcy to explore this partnership. (Anne will send information about Maine historical society exhibit and Joanne mentioned new Davis Driscoll exhibit at PMA).

2. Social Justice Music Grant (potential) — the criteria and goals for this potential funding have not been defined, but may offer an opportunity to partner with Wabanaki REACH. Joanne will provide Rev. Will with contacts she knows. Goal is to explore what might be of value to them.

3. Fun Camp— Last session culminating in play on the beach a huge success. Plans for summer:
Week of July 12-16: 9-12 drama experience for older kids (Liz Rollins advisor only)
1-4 “run them ragged” activities for preK through grade 5
Week of August 2-6: (first week of May’s all -girl theater camp)
Boys—Martial arts, combat, etc. for boys, organized by Scott

June 30: Jamie Sylvester Art Van coming to island for 2 hour training “using art to work with special needs kids.” Staff, volunteers and parents enrolled

4. Drum Circle— group has been drumming in Sanctuary. Karin noted that time has come to check in with Mike about next steps, as it is a considerable time investment for him to come over, lugging extra drums.

5. Maine 200 yr Birthday Celebration— proposed Bean Supper and Blueberry Pie in collaboration with PIETA in September. Tookie will check with Cynthia Pedliken, PITEA chairperson. Further discussion at July meeting. Rev. Will wants us to put a Thanksgiving Dinner on our radar. Several members remembered the monthly “community dinner “ tradition that was very popular.

New business

1. Juneteenth (June 19) now an official Maine holiday. Need to begin to think about how to celebrate In future years.

2. Looking for volunteers to converse with English language learners preparing for citizenship exam: online, Rev. Will is working with Jean Knox, who teaches ESL classes back in California.

3. Family Promise: Linda sent out an email from Family Promise outlining their programs. Immediate opportunity to raise awareness and funds using “box house.” Tookie offered to pick one up so we could have it in sanctuary through the end of the month There was discussion of turning this into a longer term learning opportunity with children, especially.....making boxes, collecting money, maybe as part of trick or treat

4. Climate Change: Andrea will pursue discussion with her “Fun Camp climate dad” who is eager and very qualified to do a presentation on climate change. She will explore whether best to do on zoom. July discussion of what could be our church goal in climate change. Suggested that a smaller group convene before then to discuss, bring suggestions to full committee

Fundraising

1. Directory. Ad income in hand \$15,200. Pledged but still to be collected, \$5,000. Estimated printing expenses between \$6-7,000 depending on number of directories. Current plan is to distribute free, one to a household, with opportunity to make a donation. Anne and Tookie are going to explore creating a directory web site to permit ongoing updates. (Astaritas site has been closed out). The existing Peak Island Information site may provide a solution.
2. Rummage sale. Tookie is waiting to hear from Lions Club about available dates for October. Once these are confirmed we will set a date for beginning to accept donations. None til then!

Lulu reminded us that the larger picture is that the churches operating costs will (and should) increase as we transition to a larger footprint. Issues such as alternative ways to utilize church spaces, future capital campaign, etc need to get on agenda at some point for in depth exploration and decisions.

Next meeting: July 21, 4 pm zoom. (Issue raised: If committee transitions to in-person, need to consider different time of day)

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