

Bridge Committee, June 27 2003, Zoom. 4pm

Present: Caron Chess, Georgette Fehrenbach(scribe), Rev. Will Green, Anne Coughlin, Linda Capone-Newton.

Will led a prayer and Caron read our covenant. Minutes were accepted.

Book event recommended by Mira: "You or Someone You Love" by Hannah Matthews.

Hannah has agreed to give a book talk. No date yet but we are looking at the end of August or beginning of September. Will has started the book, says it's very powerful, and suggests we might want to read it before the event. Joanne and Mira are coordinating the event.

Legislative updates: Mainecare for asylum seekers passed in the House and is scheduled to go before the Senate. The gun safety bill to close a loophole with private sellers, passed by one vote in the House and next goes to the Senate. None of the other gun bills were passed, including those supported by guns rights activists.

Wabanaki L.D. 2004, which would provide the Wabanaki with the same benefits of federal law enjoyed by the 570 other recognized tribes, passed 100-47 in the house and 26-8 in the Senate. To increase the support of Republicans, the bill will not apply to gaming nor environmental laws. Other bills that were not considered as crucial by MUUSAN also passed. (The tribes are getting reimbursed for law enforcement training, which until passage benefited other police forces, but not Wabanaki. The Mi'kmaq achieved jurisdictional parity with the other Wabanaki tribes. In addition, state legislation codified into state law the federal Child Welfare laws that prioritize keeping children in tribal homes. Bills carried over to next year would provide Free state park passes for all tribal members and include a Wabanaki representative on the board of the Baxter State Park.

Rummage sale: We made 7,960 from the sale. Great turn out of volunteers. Clean up was smooth. The next sale is in October.

Suggestions for future sales: mark the tables from St Christopher's church, organize outside tables, white bags at the end for backing up for ease of labeling, nothing booked in church for two weeks before the sale, end sale at 1:30 on Sunday so we can start packing up, need better planning for the packing up, don't stick things up in the stage area, have a list of what needs to be done each day and who will lead each day, e-mail list for all the volunteers, plan for when things are posted on Next Door. (See attached list organized by topic.)

Got a \$20,000 check from Alice Mozley for the new shed (thanks so much!). Need to thank her properly. Will plans to call her.

Family Promise: Georgette will forward emails from Family Promise to Linda C-N so she can discern if we should actively volunteer in the future.

Communication: Will Crosby is helping design the communication for the bulletin board in the fellowship hall and the entrance way. Will was particularly impressed with our "This Week at Brackett", which he thinks illustrates our importance to PI. Rather than include a white board

that would need to be changed every week, Will is going to post a print copy of "This week at NBC" every week. Caron, Anne, Timmi and Linda will review whatever Will C sends out and coordinate next steps.

Georgette offered to work on updating our emergency shelter plans when she gets back in the fall. There was a discussion about what is printed in the monthly Star Newsletter and possibly getting someone to take on that responsibility. It was decided that at the monthly Bridge meeting the focus of the Star needs to be determined This needs to be done by the 25th of the month

We have an assigned place on the kiosk down front and that needs some organizational attention.

Tyler is taking over the church website, but we are not clear what his scope is. Caron will talk to him about whether he wants/needs assistance and/or input. Also, we might want to get feedback about the website from both church members and non-members.

For the near future, the Bridge and the Social Justice Task Force will be the same meeting time.

REMINDERS FOR FUTURE RUMMAGE SALES

Bravo! Memorial day 23, we had lots of great volunteers, great sorting, much more efficient clean up

Planning: Do not plan any events in the fellowship hall for 2 weeks before a sale. (Caron to let Deb know.) Let all instructors know

Buy masking tape, sharp tips for writing, magic markers, black trash bags, white trash bags for clean up. Check to see if 2 utility knives with good blades. If not buy

Plan a schedule for posting announcements of the sale on Next Door/Carol's list.

Finalize an email list of volunteers that includes church members and those not.

Setting up and sorting

Make sure to mark and COUNT tables from st chris'

Send out a schedule to all volunteers, not just for drop-off but for times to sort

NO stuff on stage on Sundays...needs to stay kids' space for Sundays

Assign leader for each day to keep organized.

End of each day, make list of what to do the next. POST prominently.

Curate stuff that will not sell so it is thrown away before Sunday (Seems like happening with clothes but not outside where on Sunday we were dealing with rusty pots, broken toys etc.)

Use map of outside tables from 2023 (to start at least). Mark each table with sign for easy sorting

Do the same inside? We limited tables for linens)

Leave more space from clothes racks to tables

Need to plan packing up: who needed, when, what vehicles, call dump ahead of time (who?) so open to take our stuff.

Cleanup

End sale at 1:30 on Sunday. Don't start packing stuff up until sale is over (for late shoppers)

Save 2 small boxes of plates/glasses for Betsey to take to immigrants

Start cutting up boxes on Sunday

Ahead of time contact Susan Hanley...who found a place for most left over clothes summer 2023

Use white trash bags for clothes so they can be marked easily