

Minutes from 1/6/2010 meeting of FUUSE Program Council

Attendees: Jane, Janet, Gail, J.B, Deb, Kimberly, Kendra, Stephanie, Dixon, Dan, Pam, Dave, and Bob

Agenda:

1. What's on top?
2. Meeting guidelines
3. Committee check-ins
4. Follow-up items:
 - a. Communications Task Force
 - b. Retreat Planning: Will be held 1/20/10, 6:30 to 9:30, Sue Kingman to facilitate
5. Budget planning:
 - a. Update from committees on budget proposals and "dream items"
 - b. Program council budget request
6. Kendra's sabbatical plan - update
7. Wrap up

Pledge drive: Dan and Stephanie provided an update on the pledge drive. A dessert potluck will be used to help kick-off the drive on January 30th. The drive will conclude on March 6th, and trains (as in, "all-aboard") will be used as the theme. Rather than use just one letter for the entire FUUSE community, the pledge drive committee intends to tailor several letters that will be able to connect more specifically to FUUSE members. Dan and Stephanie noted that the number of households that contribute to the pledge has leveled off over the past 4 to 5 years, and they're hoping to change that for the better.

Committee updates:

Team FUUSEion: the team has set up an info center with a computer and printer to assist members of FUUSE with limited or no access to a computer. The group will conduct a demonstration on February 7th at South Church in Portsmouth in the hopes of stirring interest there in establishment of a Lego team.

Children's RE: the all FUUSE survey has been completed and the results will be discussed at the committee's January 11th meeting. A decision will be made shortly thereafter as to whether adjustments should be made to Children's RE at FUUSE.

Membership: Janet mentioned that Membership is working with small group ministry (SGM) to establish a SGM made up of newcomers. Also, Membership would like members of the Board to help staff their coffee hour table if possible.

Small Group Ministry: Pam mentioned that a new SGM for newcomers to the church is being developed, and that former participants in SGM circles are being sought as leaders.

Finance: JB informed the group that Finance will be meeting between services on Sunday to develop a first draft of the FY 2010-2011 budget.

Sabbatical Committee: a forum will be held this Sunday to discuss Kendra's upcoming Sabbatical, which will begin on February 1. The schedule of services for this time period is almost completely filled out. Jen Morris is working on setting up Summer services; Helen Kruppa will oversee the Minister's discretionary fund in Kendra's absence.

Board: Deb Merrick, the incoming Chair of the Board, told the group that the Board will hold a retreat in a couple of weeks, and will focus on coming up with a refined statement that succinctly captures the essence of the Board's existing vision statement. Also, Skip Berrein has joined the Board.

Outreach: Gail summarized the third Sunday give-a-way collections to date, which have gone to groups such as Seacoast Compass Care, the annual Crop Walk, the Minister's discretionary fund, A Safe Place & Crossroad, and Seacoast Out-Right (January).

Adult RE: Dave mentioned that many interesting offerings have been lined up for the second half of the year.

Social Justice: Dave mentioned that the 3 areas of focus continue to be health care, climate change, and working for Peace, although defense of the recently enacted gay marriage law in New Hampshire will also be a priority.

DRE Relations: Jane mentioned that DRE relations will help with any implementation issues that may arise as a result of the recent survey conducted by the Children's RE committee.

Green Sanctuary: The group has sent a request to the FUUSE Board to get on the agenda for the next all-church meeting. The congregation would be asked to vote to approve the submission of an application to "Green Sanctuary" status. The application is the first step in the process of a year-long program to build a "Green Sanctuary". At the end of that year of work, an external review committee from the UU Ministry for the Earth would review our work in the interest of granting "Green Sanctuary Status". Additionally, working on a bulletin board to increase understanding of how FUUSE members can reduce their carbon footprint; considering holding a "mini-swap" once a month; Monthly beach clean-ups in Seabrook are ongoing; will host a service later in the year that may be based on ethical eating.

Communications Task Force: This group has just come together and will hold their first meeting in the near future. Bob Moore has the lead on this, and Pat Baker, Lyn Rodger, and Frank Merrick are members.

Retreat planning (January 20th, 6:30 to 9:30): Sue Kingman has been retained to act as a facilitator for our retreat. Likely topics include taking a look at the way we function

as a group, whether we should look to take on additional responsibilities, and what our plan is going forward. Will try to take a step back and look at how we see the church.

Budget Planning Process: JB collected proposed budgets from the committees present at the meeting (Green Sanctuary will forward to JB shortly). Committees should be thinking about how best to lobby for their dream budget requests, as not all are likely to be able to be met. Stephanie indicated the pledge drive would like to know what each committees dream items are by the end of the month, as the kick-off for the pledge drive is January 30th.

Jane's January 7th e-mail contained the following Program Council budget request:

\$ 400	Leadership Training
\$ 500	Printing
\$ 50	Postage
\$ 100	Supplies for Volunteer Recognition events (shared with Hospitality, REC and other committees)
\$1050	Total Basic Budget Request
\$5000	Fees and expenses to send 5 individuals to the UUA Mid Sized Church Conference or General Assembly
\$1600	Scholarships for 2 FUUSE children to attend UU summer camp at Ferry Beach
\$6600	Total "Dream Budget" addition

Next meeting scheduled for February 3rd @ 7:00.

Follow-up items and items for next meeting:

1. Green Sanctuary should send their bare bones and dream budget requests to JB.
2. Jane will send out an agenda for the upcoming PC retreat.