

Minutes from 11/4/2009 meeting of FUUSE Program Council

Attendees: Joy, Janet, J.B., Gail, Bob, Kendra, Kimberly, Jane, Paula, Dave, Donna

Agenda:

1. What's on top?
2. Meeting guidelines
3. Committee check-in
4. Follow-up items:
 - a. Retreat planning: goals, agenda, facilitation, date, time.
 - b. Pledge drive: Stephanie Marshall – (this was postponed to next meeting)
5. New Business: Encouraging linkages across the generations in FUUSE programs – a discussion with Donna Schlachman
6. Wrap up

A few notes from the committee check-ins:

Membership: Big weekend coming up; all church pot luck scheduled for Saturday night, followed by and “Bring a Friend” Sunday (November 7 & 8). Janet met with Kendra for suggestions on how to introduce new arrivals to the church during her sabbatical. Have gained valuable insight from the DVD, “Ideas for Growth”!

FUUSE Board: reminded group that goals for 2010-2011 fiscal year need to be developed along with budget requests, and turned in by December. Remember to dream big in your planning, and to review the “Provocative Props” contained in the strategic plan.

Outreach: Doubled goal from 4 to 8 Thanksgiving baskets; Secret Santa will follow in December, with a goal of providing gifts for 50 people. They've recently added 2 new members.

Children's RE: OWL off and running with 16 participants; current teaching block is fully staffed with volunteers; hope to conduct survey within the month to gauge FUUSE community's views on what the children should be taught, opinion of current program, and suggestions for changes including possible move to Children's RE at only one service. Kimberly noted it would be unfortunate if this were done and some core FUUSE families that regularly have their children attend RE couldn't make the time selected.

Green Sanctuary: they are attending the Seacoast Sustainability Summit this weekend.

Ministry: worship committee hard at work planning for services during sabbatical; many suggestions for guest speakers.

Finance Committee: JB requested that the committees review the following account balances held at the Ocean Bank checking account and let him know if anything seems amiss:

Team Fuisseion - \$789.01
Senior YRUU - \$253.57
Bldg. Feasibility Fund - \$3,610.00
Junior Youth Group Fund - \$680.87
Memorial Funds:
 Copithorne Fund - \$6,000.74
 Memorial Funds, other - \$3,591.40
Reserve for community giving - \$9.00

Small group ministry: Groups running this Fall are faring well. Paula would like more recruits to join her committee, particularly younger folks. Jane suggested contacting Kim O. from Spiritual parenting group.

Adult RE: shaping programs for second half of the year, some offerings may include Yoga dance, ethical eating, transcendental meditation, and poetry as spiritual practice. Working with Children's RE to develop a couple of offering for younger folks. Exploring the possibility of creating "post-sermon" discussion group that would meet regularly after Church on Sunday morning to discuss reaction to the day's sermon.

DRE relations: will join Children's RE committee to work with Kimberly on development of lines of work for DRE and Children's RE committee.

New Business: Encouraging linkages across generations at FUUSE: Donna Schlachman joined the group to discuss this topic, and focused on the difficulty that the Outreach committee has experienced over the past several years in coordinating with Children's RE. In particular, Donna expressed disappointment that the Crop Walk was so sparsely attended by youth from FUUSE, and feels more children might have participated if Children's RE had focused some attention on this leading up to the event. She also mentioned difficulty linking other Outreach activities with Children's RE such as the Thanksgiving food drive and Secret Santa program, and expressed a desire for improved coordination in the future.

Children's RE responded that it was difficult to alter the RE program once the schedule has been established, and teachers lined up to teach certain topics on certain dates, and that there wasn't opposition to the ideas proposed in the past by Outreach, but it was necessary to also lend the support (people) to implement those ideas. If Outreach could also propose ways, and resources, to make these ideas come to fruition, perhaps by agreeing to lead Children's RE sessions on a topic of interest, doing so would help alleviate the chronic shortage of teachers. Children's RE extended an invite to Outreach to attend their FY 2010-2011 planning meeting in January to help plan out some joint Outreach – Children's RE activities.

Retreat planning (facilitator, goals, and date, and time): Several ideas were suggested and discussed as possible topics for the retreat, such as:

1. Are we satisfied with the overall mission & goals that have been established for the Program Council (PC)?
2. Does FUUSE need the PC to shift its focus more towards oversight of other committees, and become more involved in the budget process?
3. Should the retreat focus on goals for the PC, and/or overall goals for FUUSE?

Next meeting scheduled for December 2 @ 7:00.

Follow-up items and items for next meeting:

1. All committees need to get their budget requests & goals for 2010-2011 in to the finance committee (to J.B.) by the end of December.
2. Joy will e-mail the “Provocative Propositions” from the strategic plan to the PC.
3. Need to choose date and time for January PC retreat and see if a facilitator can be lined up for this. Jane will follow-up on these items (a Tuesday in January, or Wednesday January 20th).
4. Stephanie will attend the December meeting to discuss the pledge drive.
5. Children’s RE will invite Outreach committee to their next year planning mtg.