

Minutes from 4/7/2010 meeting of FUUSE Program Council

Attendees: Gail, Jim S., Jane, Sylvia, Ginny, Kimberly, Deb, Janet, Bob M.

Agenda:

1. What's on top?
2. Announcements
3. Ground rules
4. Committee Check-ins
5. Volunteer appreciation event planning
6. Program council membership for next year
7. Follow-up from retreat: Creating goals for next year:
 - a. Summary of process and recommendations for new direction next year
 - b. Enhancing our Statement of Purpose and aligning it with BOT Statement of Purpose
 - c. Role of PC in managing the Program Committees' budgets
 - d. Enhancing what we do to engage visitors and members across committees and throughout the church community
8. Conclusions

Announcements:

1. Please return the evaluation form for the retreat to Jane.
2. According to the new By-laws, the Program council needs to recommend one person to be a member of the DRE relations committee. Please discuss with your respective committees and forward candidates to Jane.
3. Annual reports from committees are due to Pat by April 22
4. Budget – some committees have not yet spent much of their 2010-2011 church year allocation, and should report any anticipated surplus to the finance committee. (Committees present gave overview of their budget status; Janet will check on status of membership's budget).

Committee updates:

Children's RE: Jr. youth group will run coffee hr. on 4/11, and their next block will be on Buddhism. The next Children's RE block begins on 4/18 and will focus on construction and then use of a labyrinth.

Membership: Janet mentioned that several members from the current pathways class may like to become members this spring, but others would like to wait until the fall when Kendra's back. Also, circle suppers have started again.

Small Group Ministry: Ginny mentioned that only one group is currently active, but that group is doing very well and getting much from the experience. Additional committee membership would be appreciated.

Board: Deb Merrick mentioned that the pledge drive came in lower than hoped, and so we will be operating on a reduced budget for the upcoming church year. There will, however, be \$\$ to higher a sexton, but only for 8-hrs. a week. The Board will be looking at our current budget to see if there are opportunities for savings. FUUSE may begin to offer concerts as a way to raise additional funds.

Social Justice: Pat mentioned that SJ is offering the event, “Rethinking Afghanistan on April 25th at 7:00 pm at FUUSE. Also, on May 1st SJ will hold its planning meeting for the upcoming year, and this is open to all (Contact Pat Yosha for additional details). The latter portion of this meeting will be devoted to a discussion of what the new U.S. health care legislation means to NH residents.

Outreach: Gail mentioned that give-it-away Sundays are still going strong, despite the economy. \$990 was collected in January, \$456 in February, and \$636 in March. Plans for next year’s recipients are currently being made. In October, Children’s RE will devote a Sunday (October 3rd) to informing children about hunger, and the Crop walk. Bob and Gail will meet in September to plan the day, and Children’s RE will provide their calendar for the upcoming year to explore other possible linkages.

Nominating committee: Jim S. led a discussion of how the by-laws affect committees, and of how the nominating committee assists with identification and recruitment of committee leaders and members.

Green Sanctuary: Sylvia mentioned there will be a forum held after church on May 2nd regarding the upcoming vote on FUUSE committing to being a green sanctuary. Also, there will be copies of the green sanctuary covenant placed in the pews.

Volunteer appreciation event: June 6th was selected as the date of the volunteer appreciation event, and it will be similar to last year’s event (i.e. held during coffee hour; each committee will be assigned something to bring). A difference will be that rather than listing out every person on every committee, each committee will be asked to prepare several sentences that captures either the one most notable accomplishment over the past year, or the essence of what their committee provides to the FUUSE community.

Program council membership for next year: For the May meeting, members of the Program council should be prepared to say who will represent their committee on the PC next year. Also, Jane mentioned that she is willing to chair the PC again next year.

Follow-up from retreat: A main takeaway from the March 31 Program council retreat is that next year, the PC will focus on committee membership and recruiting for participation on the various committees at FUUSE. Ginny and Deb will work on development of a position description for a volunteer coordinator position, as Tony Tufts from the Property committee has indicated they may be willing to forgo hiring of a Sexton and instead allow the funds to be used for a volunteer coordinator position.

Next meeting scheduled for May 5th @ 7:00.

Follow-up items and items for next meeting:

1. All committees should send Deb any necessary revisions to the one-page descriptions for their groups as currently found in the Operations Manual.
 - a. Jane will send Deb the update for the Program Council, and also the update for the leadership piece.
2. Bob will check on last year's committee assignments for bringing food and beverages to the volunteer appreciation event.
3. Program council members should discuss within their respective committees possible candidates to participate on the DRE relations committee, and forward any suggestions to Jane.
4. Annual reports from committees are due by April 22
5. Janet will check on status of Membership's budget, and report any possible leftover funds to finance committee
6. Children's RE should provide their calendar for the upcoming year to the outreach committee.
7. Sylvia will send Bob Green Sanctuary's flyer that has been developed for placement in the pews.
8. Committees should develop several sentences for volunteer appreciation event as described under that heading above.