

FUUSE Program Council Minutes meeting of March 3, 2010

present: K. Wootan (ex officio), S. Foster (Green Sanctuary), J. Szarmach (Hospitality), R. McConnell (RE)(facilitating), P. Yosha (Nominating and Social Justice), D. Merrick (Communications Task Force and Board), D. Weber (Adult RE)

1. What's On Top?
2. Meeting Guidelines
3. Committee check-ins:

ARE--Green Sanctuary and Social Justice both request inclusion in the fall program

Board--focused on the congregational votes March 7: by-laws; Safe Congregation Policy; facilities needs. As always a quorum is necessary and difficult to obtain. Members cannot vote by proxy on any article that is amended during the discussion. A telephone tree was suggested.

Communications TF--trying to obtain email addresses for twelve FUUSE members for whom we don't have them; Lyn Rodger is working to empower committees to update their sections of the webpage. The CTF set up and tried out a phone conferencing service. It worked very well and is free unless you have to pay for long distance calls.

Social Justice--took an informal survey of members' priorities; the issue with strongest interest was revitalizing democracy. UU Action Network is now all-volunteer, is hoping for two fifth-Sunday give-it-aways per year.

Hospitality is sponsoring Family Game Night with a pot luck on March 26, 5:30-8:00.

Green Sanctuary--see below

District DRE meeting. We noted the general issue of the degree of FUUSE's involvement in the District and the UUA (nationally). The Board is setting up a Denominational Committee.

RE reported on the current four-week experiment in having the children's programming reflect themes that are active in the adult RE program. The four themes are money, music, poetry, and bread-making. RE will support the Crop Walk programmatically. Some of the RE participants may ask the Outreach Committee to include an animal-welfare organization, perhaps the SPCA, in the 2011 give-it-away calendar.

Nominating--we discussed the desirability of higher visibility for the committee recruitment and leadership process. The NC's purview is Standing Committees as opposed to Program Committees.

4. Discussion of Green Sanctuary project. GS hopes for support from PC and RE. Are we living our seventh principle?

5. PC and the Board--vice chair (incoming chair) of the board will call PC's first meeting next year, then PC will elect its own chair for the year.

6. Update on revision of committee operations manual. Committees' revisions should go to Deb Merrick. Bob collected names for specific assignments. This outdated "Operations Manual" needs a new name, perhaps Committee Chairs' Reference Manual. It was noted that we (FUUSE generally) do more reinventing of the wheel than sensible people should do.

7. Look ahead to the annual recognition of service by volunteers, with special emphasis on retiring Board members. Suggestion: let each committee identify one thing it is particularly proud of (in one or two sentences), so the whole gathering can get a quick sense of the work being done in committees.

We noted that recruitment of new committee members needs to be ongoing.