

Minutes - Social Justice Action Committee Meeting

December 9, 2013, North Chapel Library

In attendance: Anne Marinello, Rhoda Moore, Jackie Fischer, Akankha Perkins, Neil Marinello, and Richard Schramm

The minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Review of Action items. Still working on putting information on website about Youth Initiative.

Report from the Board - Anne Marinello

- Board minutes will be posted on the North Chapel website after their approval. Password requirement will be dropped. SJA Committee (and other committees) should post their minutes on the North Chapel website by emailing them to NorthChapel Communications@gmail.com with a copy to Donna for the Board. Board will notify all committees of this procedure.
- The lack of safe egress in the case of fire in the Change the World Kids' space is still a concern. Board members will all visit the site to assess the situation. Question of involvement of CTWKs in this decision, consistent with the Board's policy on collaboration, was discussed and the Board is proceeding according to this policy.

Website Update - Rhoda

SJA Committee information is now being handled well on the website. We need to continually post information about social justice-related organizations, projects, programs and events (see last item below).

Job Bank and Life and Hope Updates - Richard

- Brooke Beaird provided information about the Woodstock Area Job Bank after the church service on December 1st. Information about the Job Bank will be posted on the website (Rhoda).
- Life and Hope had a successful fundraising campaign involving the Thanksgiving collection and a play/video/dinner event. They raised over \$8000 for Life and Hope which was above their target of \$7000-7500. The question of whether the amount above the target should be paid to Life and Hope this year or put aside as part of next year's fundraising was raised, as it has been before, but not discussed at this time.

Youth Initiative Update - Jackie Fischer and Anne Marinello

- Mapping of youth needs and resources will be delayed until the summer.

- Several youth initiatives are happening (film and discussion on how bystanders to bullying can intervene; film, the Hungry Heart, on prescription drug addiction to be shown) and preparation for the March 22 Youth Summit is underway.

Action: We agreed that the SJA Committee should provide publicity for events of this sort including information about the organizations and events on the North Chapel website. We also agreed that we would support a signature garnering campaign to get on local town warnings by the Ottawaquechee Community Partnership (OCP) on Sunday December 15th. (Jackie, Anne and Rhoda)

SJA role during Daniel's Sabbatical - Neil Marinello

Action: While Daniel is on his sabbatical (1/15-4/15/13), our committee will be responsible for three services (most likely all in February, dates to be determined). Youth Summit Sunday (organized by Jackie and OCP interns); Class, Privilege, Entitlement (organized by Richard and Peter Rousmaniere); and Race (organized by Richard and Denise Lyons). The latter two services will be accompanied by workshop events during the week before or after the service (organized by Richard and Denise). We also agreed to ask North Chapel members and friends if they have stories to share around these themes, either in the services or the workshops.

Social Justice Action Committee Membership Survey report - Rhoda

Final results are 13 responses from 28 emailed surveys. One person suggested SJA meetings be after church; 9 prefer to work on projects rather than attend meetings and specified project areas of Youth (6 people), Climate change/Sustainability (2), Hunger/Poverty/Affordable Housing (4), Elders (2) and Peace/Nonviolence (1); Specific services were offered by 2 people in Audio/Visual (1 person), Posters/Flyers/Press Releases (2), Organize Fundraising (1), and helping as a Go-fer (1).

No one signed up to be involved only electronically.

Policy on prioritizing requests to SJA Committee for support - Richard

- This discussion has been tabled until March, 2014.

Upcoming Events:

Action: We agreed to publicize the following events in the weeks to come.

Thursday, December 12 - GunSense Vigil on Woodstock Green (4:30 pm)

Sunday December 15 - Support for OCP Signature Campaign (11:15 to Noon in Social Hall) and Reducing Gun Violence Update and Action Session with Bob Williamson (noon to 1:00 in Social Hall)

Saturday, December 21st - One Earth One Voice event (see www.oneearth-onevoice.org)

Action: We also agreed to promote Anne Macksoud's film, *The Wisdom to Survive*, on the North Chapel website and elsewhere.

12-11-13