

MINUTES OF THE WEC RETREAT/ July 6 at the Bartletts'

home.

Present: Barbara Bartlett, chair; Joby Thompson; Pru Schuller; Laurie Marshall, Polly Forcier, secretary. Absent, Kathy Fiske

Check-in, silence, reading of the WEC Constitution

Barbara and Joby will consult to clarify some of the wording. They will write up a proposal for our revised committee constitution based on our discussions that will be presented at the next meeting for approval of the committee.

Our Mission.

We agreed to add the words "and engagement" after the word "welcoming".

NUCS WEC GOVERNANCE

We created our own rules for governance using the NUCS Worship Committee outline.

*6-8 members on the committee with staggered terms when possible. Each serves 2 years and up to 2 terms, after which they rotate off at least 2 years.

*Candidates will be reviewed by the entire committee before being invited to join.

*Key roles, e.g. (chair, secretary) will be decided annually at a called meeting. They will be asked to commit to one and possibly 2 years in that role. Barbara is presently chair and Polly has taken on the role of secretary.

Laurie Marshall was "sitting in" to see if she was willing to join the WEC. Laurie is our newest member! Welcome, Laurie!

EFFECTIVENESS WORK SHEETS

We graded ourselves on the effectiveness of our responsibilities. We have a number of ideas (1) yet to be done and some (2) partially done and that need continuing effort.

1. Engage members of congregation in dialogue to discover how we might be more welcoming. (Is this a subject for Amazing Grays? or for new members who still remember?) How to do this enlisting ideas of the whole congregation?

1. To become more inclusive and all-embracing of all who enter our doors. (Should we have a "welcoming" service?)

1. To work closely with Membership, supporting their mission and communicating openly regarding the initiatives we wish to undertake.

1. To develop guidelines and materials to implement all aspects of our mission. (Rick did these... they will be written up).

2. To develop ways of engaging more of the congregation in activities and programs that are meaningful to them and foster a sense of community. (Pizza night, we need more help). Laurie will light a candle in support of Pizza night, how it brought her into the congregation through Deb's friendship and how we need more help.

2. To be responsible to the Board, and congregation at large by effective, on-going communication (monthly committee reports, etc.) Barbara and Sherry met, they will talk yearly. Polly will write minutes, check with WEC for errors and omissions, then send to Geraldine. New initiatives can be communicated in Order of Service.

2. Members, be aware of materials we can pick up from other UU churches.

2. To be responsive to young families as to children's needs. (On-going, could be better). Discuss through Geraldine. When Leon gets here this may be easier.

WEC INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS 2015-2017

There are more than 20. Add to the list:

Sign to the right of the front door of the church. (Thank you, Rick and Kathy Fiske) Basket on table in Narthex with brochures. Polly and Barbara will change out table for a larger one.

Encourage people to contribute food to coffee hour (use humor with empty plate) Deb Rice quote.

Rest of discussion deferred till August meeting.

BREAK

Linda Galveo will write up new members.

Richard Schramm may have some initiatives for us.

Names suggested for membership to our board: Diana Perkett, Katrin Helgason, Moira Notargiacomo and Rich....?

MAIN GOALS/AGENDA Core purpose of mission statement/ways to get engaged.

Potluck dinners every 4-6 weeks?

Create opportunities to form stronger ties with each other, with the community. Communicate the need that gets people in.

Mentoring? (Work with Membership on this)

A new person is guided by a new friend.

List of engagement opportunities e.g. Book Club/ try it one time! no pressure!

Pru-Create a brochure- "What are ways we can "belong"?"

Leon's presence changes everything? We may have more of a supporting role?

Polly will line up welcomers.

Next meeting August 3 @ 5:00/ library