

MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE - AUGUST 4, 2016

Attending: Jenny Gelfan, Don Ransom, Judith Taylor, Carol Egbert, Hugh Belton, Diane Mellinger, Kathy Astemborski

Opening Words

Check In

Discussion regarding recent past services.

There was discussion about how to help guest reflectors with determining the length of their reflection. It was agreed that while the guideline is 15 minutes we don't want people to feel rushed and we can be flexible about the ending time of the service. The recent good attendance at services was noted.

Discussion about Governance of the Music and Worship Committee

There is a responsibility of the committee members to be in touch with the community regarding who they would like to hear from/topics they'd like to hear about. We want to create "the energy to be available" and discussed how this can occur.

The suggestion was made to add a comment when the Service Coordinator is doing welcoming announcements that if people have ideas for reflections to let someone on the committee know. We also discussed the importance of letting people who have been well received that they're welcome to come back.

There was discussion about honorariums being offered and it was agreed this has not been the tradition and we are not prepared to do that with our budget. Traditionally, "religious professionals" have been paid. We discussed the importance of acknowledging guest reflectors and thanking them. After discussion it was agreed that trying to institute a formal process of sending thank you notes might not be sustainable. The Service Coordinator would be the person most able to send an email or give a thank you, since they are obviously at the service. We will look at amending the service coordinator guidelines to include adding the responsibility of thanking the reflector.

A theme emerged during the meeting of the committee being responsible for creating peacefulness within the sanctuary. Along these lines, we decided we were not in favor of asking guests at Sunday services to stand and introduce themselves. We were in agreement that doing that at coffee hour makes more sense (and guests are invited to use the blue coffee cups). Carol said she will pass along our decision on this to the membership committee.

We are hoping Eugene Frazien will be back Wassail weekend. Diane will reach out to him to confirm so we can plan accordingly.

We discussed being prepared for a guest reflector NOT showing up at the last minute. Ideas included: using a tape of Daniel's past reflections, not having a reflection and just including an extra song or poem, Don has a story with some prepared questions to follow that he could share.

We discussed having a Music Service and Diane said she'd be willing to put that together. Westward Winds is coming on 10/9/16 and we discussed reaching out to them to see if one of the members might like to do a reflection.

Hugh Belton announced that he is resigning from the committee. We want to thank him for all of his service and great ideas he's brought to the committee. We wish he and Jenny the best in the next step of their journey.

Next meeting is Tuesday, 9/13 at 5:15. There will be a Committee Cafe that evening.