

Justice Ministries Coordinating Team Meeting

Tuesday, March 07, 2017

Leffler House

Those present: Betsy Bell, Chris Breunig, Tom Campbell, Louise Gringel-Caswell, Rick Hodsdon, Karen Knudson, Jacquelyn Miller, Marjorie Ringness, Steve Thomason, David Wagner, Joe Wright

Absent: Carolyn White

Betsy opened with prayer at 7:03 p.m.

Introductions

We began with introductions since the committee has two new members, David Wagner and Joe Wright. David is reconnecting with the committee after being away for a couple years and Joe is serving as one of Vestry liaisons.

Seattle World School

The Vestry approved for St. Marks to take up an undesignated plate offering on March 26th to purchase food gift cards for students of the Seattle World School during its 2017 spring break. Most of the students are from low-income immigrant families. We will be collaborating with Temple de Hirsch. Several members of the JMCT have already made a financial commitment to the cause and volunteered to make a statement during the Sunday services when the offering will be collected.

Action Step: Marjorie volunteered to announce the event in the *Sundays and Beyond*.

Communication Table in the Nave

Karen reported on her efforts to bring attention to the good work of our justice ministries by having them staff a table in the back of the nave on a rotating basis. It appears that following past interest in this project, there has been less response recently from some ministry leaders. We discussed how to move forward, whether to drop the project completely, to schedule a quarterly event for all groups to participate, or to have those who have continued to show interest to take charge of writing their own blurb for *Sundays and Beyond*. We decided to go with the last option with some continued coordination by Karen. This option makes sense given that space limitations make option two difficult and because we wanted to continue to give ministries the opportunity to engage parishioners on Sunday mornings.

Action Step: Karen will make a standing order for a table to be placed in the nave following Sunday services and will circulate the calendar with the current justice ministry reservations among all the justice ministries.

We also discussed the possible implications of Nancee Martin's leaving the parish on the organization of the Ministries Fair held in September and were assured that someone would step in to take on this project.

Church Council of Greater Seattle

Marjorie announced that the annual assembly of the Church Council will be held on March 29th and asked who might be interested in attending as delegates. Joe Wright offered to serve as a delegate. Mary Lonien will also serve as a delegate. Karen, Betsy and possibly Carolyn and Marjorie will also attend.

Action Step: Marjorie will send Joe registration information.

Tiny House Project

David provided information on the tiny house project proposal that will be presented to the Vestry once it has been vetted by some other groups at St. Marks, including the 2030 Strategic Planning Committee and the facilities subcommittee of the Vestry. The project proposal is to locate four to six small houses on Cathedral property and to remodel parts of the Carriage House for homeless families. The cost of the project would be covered by city funds and managed by the Low Income Housing Institute.

Sanctuary Movement

Steve reported on what is taking place with regard to this project and noted that the Church Council of Greater Seattle has taken the lead in providing some training on citizen rights. The Cathedral will hold a meeting on March 14th in Cathedral House 210 to discuss the issue further.

Action Step: Betsy will send out a link to documents that she received at a training session at the University of Washington.

Elevator Thoroughfare Project

Jacquelyn reported that several members of the Habitat for Humanity justice ministry has begun work in the Cathedral to create thoroughfares for foot traffic from the future elevator to other parts of the building. Work will occur on three different floors of the Cathedral and will involve building five new walls and removing three current doorways.

Faith Formation

Tom announced that the Faith Formation committee is looking for more members to serve on the committee.

Mental Health Chaplaincy

Karen reported that Mental Health Chaplaincy needs someone to serve as an unpaid part-time Executive Director.

Rick offered a closing prayer at 8:29.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on April 4, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Leffler Living Room.

Minutes submitted by Jacquelyn Miller