

RE Council Meeting Minutes June 18, 2017

Attendees: Geri Knoebel, Mia Noren, Carol Cowan, Stirling Crow, Desiree Spielman

Upcoming RE Council Meeting Dates

- July 16th
- August 20th
- September 17th
- October 15th
- November 19th
- December 17th
- January 2018 no meeting

Administrative

Geri Knoebel, Chair Report

- The Council agreed that if the Council chair is unavailable for a meeting that the Director of RE would then chair the meeting.
- Mia and Geri will prepare a draft meeting schedule for 2018 for discussion by the Council at its December meeting. There were several instances so far in 2017 where our regular meeting date (3rd Sunday) conflicted with holidays and other RE events (OWL, Easter, Father's Day).

Mia Noren, RE DRE Report

1. Field Day was big success. We had 67 in total attending, which is a big increase over years past when Field Day was held on Memorial Day weekend. Some of our volunteers were from the Young Adult group and there were some youth helping, too.
2. Summer elementary classes began June 11. We managed to get enough volunteers to run all the classes. Christine gave me the opportunity to spend a few minutes talking from the pulpit and asking for volunteers. Eight people approached me after services: one is interested in youth advising and signed up for one session; the rest signed up for at least one elementary summer class. One indicated he may be interested in joining a team in the fall.
3. Some of the playground furniture has been installed. Steve Phillips installed both benches, and volunteers will install two tables next week.. New flooring will be installed in the Arnold and Wesson Rooms next week.
4. RE Pool Party going forward on June 25]
5. The Pride Parade overnight was attended by four youth, and some members of the Lavender Family shared dinner with us and we worked on preparations together. While it was a success, we will not do this the night before Pride again: One issue is that try as we might, we cannot seem to get youth from Santa Fe and Los Alamos down here. The other issue is that we have no showers, and it's not comfortable to hold an overnight and then an event the next day when no one has access to showers.
6. Worship in the Wilderness was well attended- approximately 15 people met Angela, Susan and I and held a worship service with our children on the Rio Grande.

Discussed at RE Council Meeting:

1. We also discussed needed improvements to the playground to make it ADA compliant. Geri, Mia, and Desiree will develop a plan for developing a proposal for gathering ideas

for upgrading the playground which will involve groups who use the playground, and surveying RE parents. Undoubtedly, we will need to obtain a grant for this project and we may need to do fundraising for the playground.

2. We will communicate with Building and Grounds and also include the after-school tutoring people (they are part of how we are getting the grant).

Colin Spooner, Youth Program Coordinator

- Pride Parade: Held overnight with 4 youth attending to prepare for Pride Parade March; 11 youth Attended Pride March along with members of the larger Church community
- Started Summer Curriculum - D'oh God: Simpson's episodes with discussions about faith and God; Introduced 2 new advisors to youth programming, Robert Grady and Lin McNickle.
- Youth Advisor Recruitment: We are still looking for 3-4 people to add to our advisor pools for YRUU and Mid-High groups; if anyone has people they think would be interested and be good mentors for our youth, please give Mia or myself their contact info
- YRUU
 - Rebranding La Amikoj to YRUU, to align our youth programming with that of the wider UUA
 - Has not been announced to youth, I am developing role out procedure to ease our youth into this change
 - Planning YRUU opening social event to kick off new school year
 - Youth Programs Resource Manual
- Mia and I have reviewed this to ensure consistency with youth programs and church protocols
 - Changed the Scholarship application slightly
 - Reviewed overnight policy to ensure timely, effective planning of events in the future

Desiree, Community Events and Update on Camping:

Camping

- We had our first camp planning meeting. She feels like things are way more streamlined this year. 44 kids registered.
- Mia would also like to request an addition \$5000 for next year's camp budget to assist in the adult volunteers next year.
- Total request for scholarships:: \$7920. And we have covered the cost of those - we brought in \$8600. We need to thank Alison, who scheduled the fund raising.

Pool Party:

- Reminder about the pool party!!! June 25th - 5 to 7 at Montgomery Pool
- Desiree won't be able to attend, Benita will set things up.

Nicia Rae, UU Kids Camp

- We just had our first camp meeting Monday night that included (most of) the counselors who will attend camp in addition to the core planning team. I will give a brief overview of the minutes during our REC meeting on Sunday.

Discussion

Council Terms

- Terms are up in August for a number of people. The point of terms was to not burn people out in a particular committee/chair.
- Perhaps have a "Talk With The Council" opportunity at some of the RE Family picnics. We can just wear a name tag that says "Talk To Me About RE Council!" Desiree said it wouldn't be a pitch, but just an opportunity for people to know that we are about.
- Stirling will start reaching out to new parents to plant seeds about RE Council position that will be opening up and inviting new parents to come to our meetings if they are interested.
- Carol Cowan and Desiree Spielman agreed to serve another two year term on the Council. Geri will contact Benita Terrell and Nicia Rae about serving a 2nd term on the Council.

Name	Portfolio	Term	Phone	Email
Geri Knoebel	Chair	Jan 2016 - Dec 2017	401-5990	gknoebel@unm.edu
Stirling Crow	Secretary, Recruitment Coordinator	Mar 2016 - Feb 2018	350-0114	stirlingcrow@yahoo.com
Benita Terrell	Program Evaluation	Sep 2015 - Aug 2017 2 nd term?	850-8662	Benita.terrell@earthlink.net
Callie Cone	OWL Portfolio	Feb 2016? - Jan 2018?	977-4551	ccone@salud.unm.edu
Carol Cowan	Curriculum Team Lead	Jul 2014 - Jun 2019	856-1577	carolcowanwdc@yahoo.com
Nicia Rae	UU Kids Camp Liaison	Sep 2015 - Aug 2017 2 nd term?	315-3089	Kapseesh34@yahoo.com
Desiree Spielman	Community Connections Lead	Sep 2015 - Aug 2019	271-0616	dmspiel@gmail.com
Vacant	Buildings and Grounds			
Member at large				

OWL:

- Discussion: We may want to review how we are doing some of the programs. There is a lot that happens in the Spring. It's hard to schedule things as it is. We've discussed possibly doing OWL (for the 7th and 8th graders) in the evenings. We may want to do 2 K-1 sessions (back to back) in the spring. We wouldn't have to have the same teachers teach both sessions.

RE Council Retreat: Stirling is offering to host earl. Carol mentioned that she will be out September. Maybe we could have a retreat in early October.

Security:

- There's been a few break-ins this summer. Homeless people are coming in and stealing money from Mia's office, stealing food, etc... They have been ramping up security measures (cameras and such). The sanctuary now has an alarm. This affects us because you can't just have an overnight. We're doing what we can to keep our campus secure and nice and keep people out of the buildings.
- Getting rid of the play structure on the playground is probably a good idea because homeless people are sleeping there. We need to keep that in mind when we are considering new playground equipment.
- Youth Programs Resource Manual: Updates to Child Protection Policies. We reviewed some of the revisions including: Overnight checklist; Added Clean up as a group for overnights; Letting church administrator know about reserving rooms so alarms and cameras can be turned off; Youth that have bridged need to be part of young adult program

Upcoming Dates

June 2017

- June 18 - Summer Class #2
- June 25 – RE Pool Party; Children’s Chapel/Summer Class #3

July 2017

- July 2 – Teacher Holiday
- July 2 - RE Picnic
- July 3 (Monday) - Isotopes All-Faiths Day (This is an event for any and all churches)
- July 9 – Start in Sanctuary/Summer Class #4
- July 16 - RE Council Meeting
- July 16 - Summer Class #5
- July 23 - Teacher Holiday (Camp Sunday)
- July 23 to July 28 - Camp
- July 30 – Children’s Chapel/ Summer Class #6

August 2017

- Aug. 6 – Fall Teacher Team Training- no classes; need to revise Teachers Resource Manual
- Aug. 6 - Summer Picnic
- Aug. 13 – Start in Sanctuary (Back to School Sunday) Fall Class #1 - Litany by Christine?
- Aug. 20 - RE Council
- Aug. 20 – Fall Class #2
- Aug. 27- Fall Class #3

September 2017

- September 10th - Connections Sunday – Stirling to help + one more
- September 17th - Connections Sunday – need two to help
- September 17th - RE Council Meeting