

RE Council Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
December 16, 2018

I. Attendees: Mia Noren, Geri Knoebel, Carol Cowan, Eric Keiter, Caline Cone, Desiree Spielmann, Nicia Rae, Wendy Simms-Small, Benita Terrell

II. Opening Words & Chalice Lighting

III. Administrative Agenda

- a. Approved November Minutes
- b. No meeting in January 2019
- c. RE Council Volunteer Acknowledgement

IV. Discussion Items

a. Amending Board Policy to include RE events in Social Hall

“Donation Solicitation (Policy 2.11)

Church groups may solicit donations for charitable causes from the congregation only by reserving a table at coffee hour, at a patio fair, or at an event planned in conjunction with the Social Justice or Religious Education Councils (by invitation of the planners).”

b. Council impressions from RE family feedback about absences

- a. Some divorces
- b. Personal family issues
- c. Some people don't respond to calls

No apparent programmatic issue; we seem to be following national trends in church attendance.

V. Portfolios Reports

1) Chair (Geri)

- a. This is Geri's last day as chair
- b. Recruitment Portfolio - The Council will leave the portfolio “as-is” for now and still try to find a person to fill it. Possibly change the word “recruitment” to something else.
- c. Evaluation Portfolio - responsibility of all Council members, by talking with families, being in classes, etc. Could it be that a dedicated portfolio makes us feel like we don't have to do as much? Eric's job could be compiling information from everyone. Some methods for feedback:
 - Suggestion Box
 - Survey Monkey
 - Survey at end of Teacher Training
 - Included in registration forms for returning families
 - ???

The surveys should be short and sweet with checkboxes and a blank space at the end for comments. Mia will come up with a set of 10 to 15 questions.

- d. Read to Me will run from Jan 27th-Feb 17th. Geri will dress up as a book. Kids will put labels in the books as a social justice project. The goal is that every child should have a book of their own.

2) DRE (Mia)

- a. Recovering from shoulder surgery
- b. December Potluck Theology is cancelled and will resume Jan 4, 6-8:00 in Memorial Hall.
- c. While RE registrations have been falling denomination-wide, we'd like to try to identify whether that has anything to do with our program (Discussion above)

3) Camp (Nicia)

- a. Silent Auction made about \$3600!
- b. Fundraising team meets 12:30pm Sunday, January 13
- c. There will be a **Camp Soup and Salad Fundraiser** between service and the congregational meeting on the Jan 27th. After Xmas, there will be a "sign up genius" page. People can bring soup in crock pots, salad, or bread. Need for extension cords. Encourage camp parents to participate by having them bring items or serve food.
- d. Future Events
 1. February 14th - Valentine's Dinner (Alana lead)
 2. April 28th – Pulpit Editorial coincides with Coming of Age service. Dimitri may not be able to because his son is in the service.
 3. May – Spring Cleaning using Goodwill

4) Curriculum (Carol)

- a. Carol gives report, discussing "Imagine".
- b. The subscription service isn't easy. We'll be switching to "Soul Matters." 4th and 5th grade teachers have been developing their own materials and it has been difficult to get things done on time. But the material has been good and children are enjoying it.
Three of those teachers are on the Curriculum Committee. Carol is going to ask each of them to "own" certain weeks and teach those same weeks. Mia suggests Bri-Anne be on the 4th-5th grade team.
- c. Grace is the theme for January.

5) Community (Desiree)

- a. Since no one is coming to Movie Night or to Beth's movie events, the annual \$400 annual license is not justifiable.
- b. Suggests "inter-generational" game night w/ Beth. Good idea as long as families understand they are not to drop their kids off and leave.

VI. Other Business

1) "Be SMART" program (Benita)

- **Secure** all guns in your homes and vehicles
- **Model** responsible behavior around guns
- **Ask** about the presence of unsecured guns in other homes
- **Recognize** the signs of teen suicide and depression
- **Tell** your peers to be **SMART**
 - a. 30 Minutes Program
 - b. Intended for parents to teach their children how to be safe around guns
 - c. Can we do this here at the church?
 - d. Are there other groups that may be interested?

Future Dates

December 2018

- 23rd (Sun) - Teacher Holiday with Critter Club activity, Children's chapel
- 24th (Mon) - Christmas Eve Pageant service (5:00?)
- 30th (Sun) - No RE; Full Intergenerational service (child care provided)

January 2019

- 6th (Sun) – RE Teacher training 10:30-12:00, teacher holiday w Critter Club activity
- 12th (Sat) - Youth Roadrunner work day 11-2
- 13th (Sun) – OWL parent orientation for mid-high
- 19th-21st - MLK Con, youth, Denver
- 20th (Sun) – no RE Council meeting; OWL orientation for elementary, Mid-High OWL begins
- 27th (Sun) - Children's Chapel, Elementary OWL begins, Read-to-Me Children's Book Drive starts
- 27th (Sun) – Lunch fundraiser, Congregation Annual Meeting 2PM

February 2019

- 1st-2nd (Fri-Sat) - NM Cluster mid-high youth overnight, Santa Fe
- 17th – (Sun) Teacher's Holiday, Read-to-Me social justice project