

MINUTES

MultiFaith Council Board Meeting, Sunday, December 4, 6:00 p.m.
Unity of Toledo, 3535 Executive Pkwy

Present: Sister Sally Bohnett, Emmett Kadri, Linda and Jim Morford, Judy Nickoloff, Sudi Pasupuleti, Abdel Soliman, Chuck Stocking, Judy and Woody Trautman, Joe Zielinski

A. OPENING

Welcome and Introductions – All introduced themselves and again welcomed newest member, Sister Sally Bohnett. Judy led the medication by drawing attention to numerous holidays this season of the year among Hindus, Jews, Christians, and observers of the Solstice. She distributed an Interfaith Holiday Calendar, which she created. Judy noted the spirit of giving and sharing among family members and friends, in midst of all the commercialism. She distributed gifts created by children at the UU Church to raise money for the homeless. Others gave examples of giving and sharing in our community

The minutes were approved, received as written.

Treasurer's Written Report – Jim Morford issued the treasurer's report for period ending December 3rd. There is added income of \$947.00 minus expenditures of \$875.21 with a MFC balance of \$9,590.50. Jim explained that this is not a functional report, but structured to give a general concise report for our meetings. Proud Supporters Static Clings were issued to those present who contributed to the Compassionate Community Project.

B. ACTION ITEMS AND REPORTS

The screening committee interviewed four candidates for the available intern positions. Joe reported on committee results. All the candidates had potential, but the two young ladies seemed best qualified. Asna Azeem is preferred for the Compassionate Community Project. She is a senior at UT and has nonprofit experience. We can groom the other candidate for MultiFaith GROWS and hire at a later date. Judy motioned and Chuck seconded the motion to hire Ms. Azeem and the other candidate at a later date. Discussion followed. The motion passed.

We approved the recommendation of the Banquet Planning Committee that the Eleventh Annual MultiFaith Banquet be held Sunday, March 11, at the Franciscan Center of Lourdes University, with the Erase-the-Hate Youth Diversity Festival for the program. The tentative schedule includes the youth program in the auditorium, mixer and faith displays, followed by dinner and facilitated table discussions. Ed Heilman will act as facilitator. Youth will be encouraged to participate at table discussions. Woody reported that there is no charge for the facility. We need to consider discounts or free tickets for youths and their families. Erase the Hate will contribute toward this endeavor. We will keep the cost reasonable. There is no cost for rental of the facility, and the use of the in-house caterer is a viable option. We could present certificates to nominated Heroes of Compassion. The next committee meeting is December 7th, 6:30 p.m. at the Trautmans.

Woody reported on the controversy involving TPS and the City of Toledo regarding the old Sherman School site near Bancroft and Cherry. The City of Toledo will ultimately have to decide if the site will be a park or community garden. We might have to look elsewhere for a garden

site. Woody encouraged us to support the Toledo GROWs Open Houses in December for updates on garden information.

The *Globalized Soul* showing was a very successful event with about 100 in attendance. There is interest in rescheduling another screening. *Rumi Returning* is another film to be considered after the first of the year.

Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life was a successful series at the Unitarian Church. A community read is forthcoming. Melissa Jeter is offering leadership with the help of Linda Alvarado.

The Compassionate Community Project isn't progressing as well or as fast as we anticipated. John Shousher expressed concern regarding this issue. We as faith reps need to promote within the community, and to support each other's events. We need an action team and more clergy involvement. Joe suggested that Regina could involve Owens in the Compassionate Community Project. Emmett wants to get clergy more involved. Sally offered to distribute post cards to Central City Ministries.

Sudi gave an update on Obama's Interfaith & Community Service Project at UT. The UT/MFC Service Project involved students at Chase Elementary School. Next term work will continue with kids in the Old North End.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Judith A. Nickoloff, Recording Secretary.

C. CALENDAR of FUTURE EVENTS

(See websites www.multifaithcouncil.org and www.multifaithjourneys.org and <https://www.facebook.com/MFC.NWOH> for more)

1. 6 and 12 Dec, 6:30pm to 8pm, Toledo GROWs Open House Children's Library room
Downtown Library
2. 15 Dec - 7 pm, Dances of Universal Peace, Unity Church, Westgate
3. 19 Dec - MFC Men's Group Discussion Mtg at Morfords' house at 7 PM
4. 21-28 Dec Hanukkah
5. 22 Dec Solstice - Yule
6. 25 Dec Christmas
7. 26 Dec – 1 Jan - Kwanzaa
8. 8 Jan - MFC Board Meeting - Because of the New Year holiday our January 2012, Board Meeting will be held on Sunday 8 January – Save the Date!
9. **Sun., Mar 11, 2012 - SAVE THE DATE - 11th Annual MultiFaith Banquet**

D. CLOSING

Next Open Board Meetings: 5 February, 4 March, 1 April, 6 May and 3 June