



www.chicointerfaith.org

President Kristina Carter
Baha'i
caicpresident@gmail.com

Vice President Jesse Kearns
First Christian Chico
caicveep@gmail.com

Treasurer: Rosie White
Qadiri Rifai Sufi Order
caictreasurer1@gmail.com

Secretary: Crystal Trimble/Tommye-Jean McGuire
Center for Spiritual Living/First Christian
caicsecretary@gmail.com

Minutes: February 14th 2018

Present: Kristina Carter (Baha'i); Jesse Kearns (First Christian, Chico); Rosie White (Qadiri Rifai Sufi Order); Anne Serter (Pacific Cascade Psychological Association); Gail Hill (FBC of Chico); Jorge Deeds (National Alliance of Mental Illness); Joan McCormick (Christian Science); Kate McCarthy (CSUChico); Bruce Grelle (Trinity UMC & CSuChico); Bryan Plude (UUFC); Merv Megibow (CBI); Lon Halley (Friend/Follower of Christ); Thomas Kelem (Stonewall); Pamela Beeman (Trinity UMC); Lakshmi Ariaratnam (Sky Creek Dharma Center); Ben Colahan (Faith Lutheran); Ted Sandberg (FBC of Chico); Ali Sarsour (ISCA); Lisa Currier (Crisis Care Advocacy & Triage); Collen Phipps (Butte County NAMI); John Berger (Friends); and Deborah Muth (Stay with God)

Introductions: Each person present stated their name and any agency affiliation.

Opening Focus: Ben Colahan (Faith Lutheran)

St Valentine was a 3rd century Roman Saint, imprisoned for promoting Christianity and marriage. He healed the blind daughter of his jailer, causing the family to convert to Christianity, and wrote her a letter before being beheaded, signed "Your Valentine." As it is also Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that "we are dust, and to dust we return;" as no one is perfect, we anoint with ashes despite being instructed by Christ that this is hypocritical, confirming our sin but also acknowledging that God can give us new life. Rev. Colahan then administered ashes to those who chose to.

Moment of silent prayer: Followed the Opening Focus

Guest Speakers:

LAURA'S LAW Jorge Deeds (NAMI) – this law is like 5250 only 5249 ½ - helps those with mental health issues that are unable to help themselves – hope to pass this law in Butte County. Butte Co NAMI President Colleen Phipps explained, those in crisis are taken by police to a judge who *invites* them to make use of the services of a support team, with no repercussions if they decline. There is weekly follow-up regarding issues, medication, etc. Lisa Currier CCAT spoke in support of the need for this among the homeless. Online Laura's Law has details, see also handout.

Voted M/S Sanborn/Sarsour to endorse Laura's Law and compose a letter (Leslie Johnson) to be presented at next CAIC meeting. Passed with one opposed.

Approval of January Minutes: Minutes were approved. 1st Ali Sarsour (ISCA); 2nd Ted Sandberg (FBC of Chico)

Treasurer report: The February 2018 Treasurers Report emailed to membership. Rosie White reviewed the report. Same as last report + .78 interest = \$9729.17.

Reports:

- **Education and Event Committee:** Jesse Kearns

Members: Jesse Kearns, Kate McCarthy, Bruce Grelle, Bryan Plude, Lon Halley

Report: Event for the Spring that revolves around the theme: “What people don’t understand about my religion”, scheduled for May 3rd. Looking for a venue near CSUChico, recommendations for speakers for panel are welcome.

Next Meeting: TBA. Check Emails for dates and times if interested in attending. All are welcome.

○ **Finance Committee: Rosie White**

Members: Rosie White, Loretta Ann Steinke, Thomas Kelem, Ted H. Sandberg

Report: No official meeting, see report above.

Next Meeting: TBA. Check Emails for dates and times if interested in attending. All are welcome.

○ **Interfaith Relations Committee: Kristina Carter**

Members: Kristina Carter, Jackie Leser, Jim Anderson, John Berger, Tommye-Jean McGuire

Report: Book club event was rescheduled to get greater attendance and the new date will be shared soon. Activity today at the end of the meeting facilitated by this committee.

Next Meeting: TBA. Check Emails for dates and times if interested in attending. All are welcome.

○ **Public Relations/Technology Committee: Crystal Trimble**

Members: Crystal Trimble, Lakshmi Ariaratnam, Alyssa Cozine, Pamela Beeman, Rabbi Sara Abrams, Barbara Mann

Report: Kristina reported that the letter to E-R regarding Pastor Talk has not had a response, will re-send via US mail in print form. Ali noted that we could email / mail letters of support for the change of name. New CAIC flyer has been printed, Jesse distributed. These will facilitate sending letters of invitation to non-participating faith groups

Next Meeting: TBA. Check Emails for dates and times if interested in attending. All are welcome.

Old Business

- **Gandhi’s Gift:** Jesse reported that Gandhi’s Gift screening was well-attended and discussion afterwards was good.

New Business

Upcoming Elections for new Officers: Tommye-Jean needs to be out of town for an extended period, need new co-secretary. Rosie White is also retiring as Treasurer. Nominating committee to suggest replacements. Committee volunteers: Ali, Kristina, Gail Hill, Marv Megibow.

Announcements and Reports:

- Tom Kelem: trans*GNC week coming this spring, see packet – many educational opportunities.
- Pam: Sabbath House Flower Cart having sales today by City Hall
- Ben: Wednesdays during Lent, soup dinners 6PM and worship 7PM at Faith Lutheran, speakers from First Baptist, First Christian, New Vision, UCC, Trinity UMC and Bethel AME. All are welcome.
- Lon Halley: Mondays at 1:00 PM at Faith Lutheran, OLLI class on Heaven and Hell
- Voted: Sponsor 2018 trans*GNC week with our logo M/S Ben/Pam, unanimous
- Please contact the Secretaries if you have announcements to be added to the March agenda.

Interfaith Relations Activity:

Activity: Discuss with partner your faith’s traditions regarding marriage and divorce.

Volunteer to do the March Opening Focus: Lakshmi Ariaratnam (Sky Creek Dharma Center)

Next Meeting: March 14th, 2018 at 11:45 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Chico

Question received later: Do any CAIC faith groups have bereavement/loss support groups?