



www.chicointerfaith.org

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Minutes: April 11th 2018

Present: Pamela Beeman / Trinity UMC, Lon Halley / Independent associate, Corla Bertrand / Iverson Center, Tracy Davis / Community Member: Bidwell Press., Lakshmi / Sky Creek Dharma Center, Marv Megibow / Congregation Beth Israel, Ted H Sandberg / First Baptist, Ali Sarsour / Moslem Association, Bruce Grelle / Trinity UMC, Thomas Kelem / Stonewall, Bryan Plude / Universalist Unitarian, Bob Trausch / CHAT, Leslie Johnson / CHAT, Jesse Kearns / 1st Christian, Kristina Carter / Bahai Faith

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

Opening Focus: "Bubble Meditation," by Jesse Kearns

Moment of silent prayer: Followed the Opening Focus

Guest Speakers:

Corla Bertrand with North Valley Catholic Social Services, regarding Iverson Wellness and Recovery Center (see attached information). Located on Rio Lindo, the Center offers a safe place, groups and support for those with substance or mental health issues. It is open M-F 9-4:30 and Saturdays 11-3; it is no longer a drop-in center, but has a "rolling" membership of about 800 Members who have committed to a health and wellness plan (although there is no official criteria for membership, and individuals are welcome to drop in up to three times to get acquainted with the facility and services). All groups are peer-led and there is a member-led Advisory Team. Iverson also sponsors a 24/7 Talk Line for telephone support. Corla is available to speak to groups about the center.

Time of Remembrance: Ted Sandberg: Remembrance of Father Mike Newman, longtime member and secretary of CAIC (see obituary). M/S Sandberg/Beeman to make a \$100 donation to Catholic Ladies' Relief Society. Recommended, a gathering/reception for Father Mike, invite community. M/S Sarsour/Lakshmi to fund up to \$150 for such a reception. Reception task force: Gail, Ali and Kristina

Approval of March Minutes: Minutes were approved unanimously M/S Sarsour/Megibow

Treasurer report: Current balance \$9,497.37.

Reports:

- **Education and Event Committee: Jesse Kearns**
Members: Jesse Kearns, Kate McCarthy, Bruce Grelle, Bryan Plude, Lon Halley
Report: May event "derailed" – topic "What Don't You Understand About My Religion" might be used for annual dinner – tentative date 18 Oct. Goal for the committee was two events per year, but re-evaluating and scaling back. Circulated a request re: speakers, topics, venues, and Jesse will also send an email.
Next Meeting: TBA. Check Emails for dates and times if interested in attending. All are welcome.
- **Finance Committee: Rosie White (Ted gave report)**
Members: Rosie White, Loretta Ann Steinke, Thomas Kelem, Ted H. Sandberg

Report: approved the funds for Stonewall TransWeek.

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: three activities and tasks were mentioned for 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: So far, no submissions for the art contest/award for a graduating high school senior – must start the contest earlier in the school year next year. President Carter personally mailed letters to faith groups that have not been participating in CAIC; follow-up was discussed, possibly telephone contacts or a letter/column in the E-R. CAIC was “advertised”/described on KZFR during the pledge drive at which Pamela and Ali volunteered; Ali spoke about the purpose of building bridges instead of walls, twice actually, since his microphone was inadvertently turned off for part of the interview.

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

Nominating Committee: While several members have been contacted about openings for the offices of Treasurer and (Co-) Secretary, most have declined nomination. Discussion ensued regarding the 2-year commitment, co-chairs, doing without minutes, and otherwise restructuring leadership. Question: Are we a registered nonprofit organization? Lon agreed to be nominated as Treasurer with Ali as a substitute; new volunteer Tracy Davis of Bidwell Pres is willing to be nominated as co-secretary. It was agreed to re-open the nominations.

Old Business

- **Celebration of Father Newman:** Saturday 21 April at First Baptist – announcement will be in the *Enterprise-Record*, and Ali announced it at several churches. Help is needed with setup and snacks; flyers were circulated.
- **Collaborative Opportunities:** *Ghandi's Gifts* which we co-sponsored is considered one of our educational offerings; we plan to host a yearly event with the Spiritual Life Center and Chico Peace and Justice Center. Topics might include Non-violent Communication or Restorative Justice.
- **Directory of Faith Communities:** CSUC will now be providing a listing of local faith groups for new students as part of their orientation packets. There is also a “folder” on CAIC website listing contact information for faith groups. Jim Anderson noted that faith groups may need to consider the needs of students, possibly collaborate with the university. Listings might also be added to, for example, the “Goin’ Chico” edition of the *News & Review*.
- **Pastor Talk:** Jim, Jackie and Kristina are still pursuing changes in the “Pastor Talk” column in the E-R, and are prepared with answers to the concerns noted by the E-R; Editor David Little has been invited to meet.

Announcements and Reports:

Ali: Might CAIC be overextending itself?

Lakshmi: This is her last CAIC meeting as a Chico resident.

Lon: Thanked Jackie for speaking on the Bahai faith for his OLLI class; invited members to the OLLI play festival.

Marv: Congregation Beth Israel is holding a blood drive Wed 16 May 3-6 PM, the bloodmobile will be at the synagogue.

Jim: Noted that Lakshmi should be thanked for her years of service. Reception Sunday 6 May 12:30 (?)

Leslie: CHAT fundraiser “UkaPalooza” ukulele concert and raffle, 2-5 PM, \$10-20, Sunday 29 April at First Christian Church.

- Please contact the Secretaries if you have announcements to be added to the May agenda.

Volunteer to do the March Opening Focus: Pamela Beeman

Next Meeting: May 9th, 2018 at 11:45 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Chico