

Peninsula MultiFaith Group meeting April 22nd at PTBE in San Mateo

Attending: Florence Beier, Rolf Beier, Metin Cayli, Gary Deatheridge, Rev. Kristi Denham, Lionel Engelman, Dick Heiman, Joel Miller, Karen Stiller, Lisa Streibing, Cari Chen

- Lionel chaired the meeting. Joel took notes.
- Meeting started with introductions and a prayer given by Rev. Kristi.
- Suggestions to have others say prayers or whatever is on their minds.
- Rev. Kristi reminded us of the song fest on April 28th.
- Lionel indicated that we can't possibly do all these projects, but he wanted to bring them to mind so we can all think about them.

Freedom Seder Recap:

- Theme was Freedom - some 40 years later after Martin Luther King's speech
- Rabbi Cory Helfand of Synagogue Sinai, Father Thomas Skillings from St. Paul's in Burlingame, and Muslim faith leaders led the evening
- Various aspects of Freedom and Peace were openly discussed in round table discussions.
- Each table had several religious organizations represented, with lots of interaction and time to talk.
- Thanks to Karen Stiller of the JCRC and the Pacifica Institute and volunteers who cooked / assisted
- Some 80 attendees and the only problem was limiting the attendance.
- Every-one really liked it. .
- Group agreed that it should be held in 2014 on the mid peninsula.
- Lisa S. volunteered her church possibility for next year. She will talk to her pastor.
- March 30th or April 6th of 2014 were best dates.

Beresford Park Picnic / Potluck – Aug 25th.

- Setup at 3pm start at 4pm, with reservation from 3-8
- Total cost is \$835 with a \$350 refund for a cost of \$485. PTBE has already donated \$100 with \$385 remaining.
- The potluck worked great last year much to our amazement.
- Great interfaith interaction last year.
- Singing and dancing should be more organized.
- Cooking demos could work with latkes, Challah, Turkish food, etc.
- Karen S. will do the flyer and registration for this year.
- More planning in advance for events that day would be beneficial.
- Gary D will do the volleyball again.
- Printed schedule of events that day should be available.
- Do the food 1st? And then events?
- Florence and Rev. Kristi will be co-chairs for the Beresford. Plus Lisa Streibing, Karen Stiller, Judy Miller and someone from Pacifica to be appointed by Metin.
- Send an email to the group to ask them for sponsors (just support).
- Lisa asked if the homelessness issue (Home and Hope) could be worked into the potluck event.
- Do we want to invite all congregations that are in Home and Hope to attend Beresford Park event?

Other Event Possibilities

- Cari Chen from RTPO (<http://rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org/>) briefly discussed her organization.
- Cari talked about an interfaith event on May 22nd in Redwood City.
- Do we want to add one more event?
- Are you interested in getting your congregation involved?
- The idea of a well known speaker for a weekend event did not meet with enthusiasm. Rev Kristi talked about the difference between doing and just learning.
- Perhaps partnering with RTPO for a doing type project.
- There is No extra MultiFaith money.

Book Drive / Jewish Literacy Campaign Project

- Karen talked about the Jewish Literacy Campaign and partnering with ING – Islamic Networks Group (<http://www.ing.org/>).
- Bring together people of different faiths.
- 30 – 40 people to do a book drive and book sorting event.
- Book drive, school supplies, Lomita Park School in Millbrae could be the recipient.
- Put up quilts on the ceiling because the sound acoustics are so terrible because Lomita is a POD school.

Other Events and comments

- Florence talked about the Day of the Children and wanted to know if congregations would support them.
- Dick said that perhaps our group would not want to act as a contribution center for others.
- Joel will add Day of the Children info with the minutes.
- Karen suggested and the group agreed to a book drive at the picnic (ING connection).
- We also need a location for the book sorting.
- Maybe another new congregation could host the book sorting in early October
- Dick suggested meeting with Cari (RTPO) and her director (mutual help). Send a couple of people for meeting.
- Lisa & Karen & Dick volunteered to meet at RTPO.

Projects and the cost of projects – how can we address this?

- Leave it the way it is – event based.
- Or address this with various congregations' budgets and put money aside.
- How can we get more funds without waiting until the last minute?
- Solicit funds from volunteers?

The meeting ended with Gary delivering a closing prayer.

Next meeting – June 10th at St. Paul's at 415 El Camino, Burlingame. Probably easiest to find one's way in by parking on Chapin and coming into the parish hall from that side of the building.

