

Minutes of December 15th at Sanatan Mandir in San Bruno

Attending:

Congregation Beth Jacob (CBJ) in Redwood City	Jon	Levinson
Congregation Church of Belmont	Susan	Linares
First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame	Gary	Deatherage
First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame	Vickie	Sherman
Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) in Palo Alto	Karen	Wisialowski
Mormon Church (LDS) in San Bruno	Desirae	Barton
Mormon Church (LDS) in San Bruno	Debbie	Grewal
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Deanna	Kaya
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Volkan	Kaya
Peninsula Sinai Congregation (PSC) in Foster City.	Marilyn	Mayo
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Michele	Epstein
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Dick	Heiman
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Joel	Miller
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Judy	Miller
Peninsula Temple Sholom (PTS) in Burlingame	Lionel	Engleman
Peninsula Temple Sholom (PTS) in Burlingame	Mike	Glass
Peninsula Temple Sholom (PTS) in Burlingame	Evelyn	Engleman
Peninsula Temple Sholom (PTS) in Burlingame	Jeff	Savitz
Sanatan Mandir in San Bruno	Dilip	Amin
Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple in Redwood City	Ineko	Tsuchida
Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple in Redwood City	Kyoko	Lee
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mateo	Pastor Connie	Winter-Eulberg
St. Bart's Catholic Church in San Mateo	Deacon John	Sequeira
St. Matthias Catholic Church in Redwood City	Claire	Felong
St. Paul's in Burlingame	Lisa	Striebing
UMA Interfaith Alliance	Iftexhar	Hai
St. Bart's Catholic Church in San Mateo	Jim	Sell

Sanatin Mandir provided a wonderful dinner.

Dilip Amin gave an interesting presentation on the Hindu religion and Hinduism

Lionel gave a brief prayer

Lionel & Karen handed out a packet of attachments

MLK Day Jr. Day of Service (Project related)

- Dick & Karen & Vickie talked about details about MLK specifics:
- Karen talked about signups by projects and comparisons to last year.
- We are ready to create a meaningful community service event interfaith to over 500 congregants.
- Two critical areas: signups and communications
- Signups: last year at this time we were at 25 % total; today we are at 35% of total
- Keep pushing and promoting at your congregation.
- Dick is more concerned re signup by project rather than in total
- What about rewording projects and/or moving projects up higher in the list.
- Hook & shelving projects are dragging
- Other projects are dragging in terms of signups.
- Specific email regarding similar projects that occurred last year - sent to those volunteers specifically.
- Project captains need to think creatively on how to improve signups.
- Jim Sell talked about backpack project hooks. Another school in a similar situation did a hook projects and this in an incentive. He showed the sample hooks. However plastic (polycarbonate) hooks may be too expensive \$1000 - \$1800. Budget allows for \$1200.

- The most critical issue (per Dick) is communication.
- Fair Oaks school issues regarding what to provide parents/students after breakfast (coffee?)
- Up to the captains as to whether they want to provide lunch.
- Bring fruit roll ups, granola bars, etc. or?
- Karen - some projects are very clear and others aren't
- **Communication – It was agreed that the Captains would communicate with their volunteers by e-mail notifying them of their breakfast site and any particulars about their project. Karen will provide a format and the e-mail addresses which can be cut and pasted. There was some confusion about captains, and this was clarified as follows:**
 - a. Breakfast - communication to Deanna and then she will distribute all breakfast related
 - b. Fair Oaks - all communication to Ineko.
 - c. John Gill - all communication to Clare and she will distribute
 - d. North Shoreview - all communication to Mike G.
 - e. Crafts - all communication to Desirae
- Walk thru Task list - see attachment of tasks
- Rearranging projects if not enough volunteers?
- Karen will identify who goes to what breakfasts.
- How many emails to volunteers (especially because of multiple breakfasts)
- Breakfast location must be emphasized in communication to volunteers

Volunteer related – Vickie & others:

- Captains should be sure and introduce each volunteer and talk about PMC mission and how much each volunteer is appreciated
- Captains should communicate to volunteers rather than a blanket email
- Each captain needs to do this in their own personal way.
- Send a feedback summary from each project captain after the event
- Volunteer Waivers should be made available at breakfast and/or project sites.
- Email to volunteers will show start time of each project. Captains should be specific regarding a lunch and an end time for each project.
- Volunteers should be encouraged to attend the breakfast (even though they may not eat because of dietary restriction). The experience with all the volunteers is very worthwhile.

MLK Day Jr. Day of Service (other issues)

- Ineko said that she will reach out to senior and youth groups to improve their signups on their respective projects.
- Ineko & Kyoko will expand on respective descriptions. Vickie can then create a flyer.
- Claire's daughter will take pictures.
- Dick will ask Richard Mayer to take pictures.
- We need a third photographer.
- Book and coat dive - do we need to discuss?
- Karen made MLK Day posters available to specific faith houses.
- Help desk at breakfast sites - more to follow on this
- Jeff: Financials see attachment. for details
- Put wording about matching funds on signup genius. Karen will handle.
- Also have a donation jar at the breakfast.

Lionel: why are we here? What's our mission? What are our rewards?

- Dilip: how about conflicts - maybe PMC could get involved to help resolve?
- Karen: maybe a conflict ready task force from PMC - some sort of proactive structure
- Judy & Michelle: more educational events throughout the year
- Jon: reach out to youth groups to get them involved
- Karen: even more in-depth education.
- Lionel: how can we share our combined multi faith knowledge across other congregations such as IFC at PTBE?
- Additional education events and interaction combined with possible community outreach was echoed by several others.
- Vickie would like to experience each religion more personally by attending service
- Kyoko: panel discussion re different faith groups. Additional food and music and youth events.
- Dilip: interfaith marriages might be an interesting topic
- Ineko: magazine article about Wisdom and compassion. Wisdom for yourself and compassion for others. Also events showing differences and similarities among our faith houses.
- Maybe start with a coffee or lunch with different groups and start small.

- Gary: understanding each other's faiths and differences is very powerful
 - Pastor Connie: get young adults involved and help them to understand other faiths
 - Lisa: more interfaith experiences with small group and then discuss afterwards
 - Dick: maybe music event to get youth involved. May be difficult to organize, but it's worthwhile and maybe can be discussed at February meeting.
 - Jim: what we have in common is so important and then what can our combined faiths accomplish for less fortunate. Maybe move into activities that have long term effects.
 - Deacon John: MLK Day is more of charitable type work; how to we make and create changes for less fortunate. Work will elected officials to help support affordable housing and move more in political change.
 - Volunteers in this overall effort: Jon; Karen; Deacon John; Dilip
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Next Meeting: Jan 5th, 2015 at St. Bart's?