

**Peninsula Multifaith Coalition Meeting held at Pacifica Institute in Burlingame  
May 1, 2017  
Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of SV	Mujeeb	Ijaz
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of SV	Sabaha	Ijaz
Congregation Beth Jacob in RWC	John	Poole
Congregational Church of Belmont	Rev. Kristi	Denham
First Presbyterian Church of Burlingame	Vickie	Sherman
JCRC Peninsula	Sarah	Fields
LDS Church (Mormon) San Bruno	Desirae	Barton
LDS Church (Mormon) Foster City	Rick	Holbrook
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Deanna	Kaya
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Volkan	Kaya
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Mustafa	Balcioglu
Pacifica Institute in Burlingame	Emrah	Bayram
Peninsula Sinai Congregation in FC	Dana	Izenson
Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame	Lionel	Engleman
Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame	Evelyn	Engleman
Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame a Temple	Judy	Harris
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Joel	Miller
Peninsula Temple Beth El (PTBE) in San Mateo	Judy	Miller
Sanatin Mandir Hindu in San Bruno	Dilip	Amin
Shinnyo-en USA Buddhist Temple in RWC	Kyoko	Sato
Trinity Baptist Church in San Mateo	Ina	Allen
Trinity Lutheran Church of San Carlos	Dick	Rescho
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of RWC	Tovis	Page

We started with a wonderful **dinner** catered by Cobani restaurant & desserts from Deanna K.

Deanna K. led us in an **opening prayer**

**Presentation on the crisis in Turkey** by Mustafa Balcioglu of the Pacifica Institute.

- -an interesting and enlightening talk with all of the details posted at:  
<http://www.peninsulamultifaith.org/education/>
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## **Nominating Report & Election of New Officers – Rev. Kristi D. & Vickie S.**

- ½ of the board will retire
- New officers are: Sarah F., Mujeeb I, Pastor Connie W., & Dilip A.
- Directors that are leaving the board: Lionel E., Lisa S., Deanna K., Joel M.
- Rev. Kristi and the group thanked each director & presented each with a proclamation and flowers

## **Affinity Groups Report – Rev. Kristi D.**

- project is on hold until we get two more Muslim couples
- Rev. Kristi D. passed around a list of the existing affinity groups
- A max of 8 people is what the groups are shooting for
- May 27<sup>th</sup> – June 26<sup>th</sup> is holy month of Ramadan and would not work well for Muslim couples unless it is very late

## **Education Committee Report – Dilip A. & Desirae B.**

- Peace Village for Adults
- Teacher from CSM
- Panel of women discussing multi faiths
- Dilip has written a book on interfaith marriage and this might be of interest
- General interaction of interfaith couples
- If anyone reading these in minutes is interested in being involved in the women's panel, please contact Desirae

## **Report on Teen Suicide Program – Rev. Kristi D.**

- The Teen Suicide Prevention trainings sponsored by the Teen Interfaith Leadership Council went extremely well.
- There was a good turnout on Saturday evening for the adults training and over 40 youth attended the Sunday evening training and reported very positively on the program.
- Cameron Fewkes, youth president of the TILC was able to schedule many follow up meetings for Dr. Greg Hudnall to talk with Stanford educators working on teen suicide prevention and San Mateo County suicide prevention coordinators and school leaders and councilors.
- Hope Squads have been set up in 24 states.
- They allow youth to choose the peers they feel would be easy to talk to and then those teens are trained in understanding the warning signs of potential suicide and how to respond by reaching out to those teens and helping them find the support they need.
- The program works.
- Suicides are dramatically down in states using Hope Squads.
- We were glad to be able to present this to both adult and youth leaders.
- Hopefully follow through will lead to Hope Squads in our local schools.

- Mujeeb I. offered to connect the Teen Suicide initiative with the Silicon Valley Education Association.

### **Report on SM CDA Service Event in April:** Rick H.

- Great success with 1000 people each day
- Great turnout of volunteers

### **MLK Day 2018 Planning:** Dana I.

#### **Leadership**

- Dick had to step back for personal reasons
- Dana I. volunteered to be co-chair, but we need another co-chair.
- Dick H. has done a great job establishing and growing the MLK project for 5 years, and serving as an inspiring leader.
- There can be two or three of us to share the project.
- We need project captains – passing sign-up sheet around
- Super Captains:
  - Communications (Vickie S.)
  - Breakfast/Food (Gary D.) [need to confirm](#)
  - Crafts (Desirae B.)
  - Singing (Kristi D.)
  - Schools (Ken K.)
  - Safe Harbor Shelter (Lisa S.) [need to confirm](#)
- Before the next meeting, we need to follow-up with Super Captains about finding project captains
- We are getting new assistant from JCRC, Brittany C. is going back to school
- Staying with same number of volunteers (~450-500) to provide meaningful experience
- Not sure if we will add any new projects, it would be nice to keep it “fresh” with new projects but this requires additional resources

#### **School Update**

- Led by Ken K .
- 3 schools (Fair Oaks, North Shoreview, Sequoia High School)
- 150 total volunteers, 40-50 at each school instead of 75 like last year so it is easier to manage
- Ken is coordinating with schools before summer vacation
- We still need project captains for schools

#### **Education Component**

- We should also give some serious thought to Ineko's idea of tying in some education for the participants along with the project they do
- This was briefly discussed, but I don't know if it will happen this year

### **Other Topics brought up at last night's meeting**

- Social Media: Mujeeb will give presentation at next meeting, we should have a volunteer at each site that will collect pictures and post on social media
- Physical Object/Representation of MLK Day: Recommendation to create some symbol (tree, tapestry) that represents MLK Day activities and can be displayed throughout the year
- Each MLK project could use a social media volunteer to coordinate media , etc and create hashtags, etc
- Mujeeb I. will coordinate overall media
- Prepare hashtags ahead of time (months ahead)
- Conduct an early training session on social media, etc
- Have MC & speakers at MLK breakfast before volunteers leave for projects

### **Community announcements**

- Kyoko S. spoke briefly about the Memorial Day Remembrance & Peace floating lantern event at Shiinyo-en and the event is on a website at [www.lanternfloatinghawaii.com](http://www.lanternfloatinghawaii.com)
- Sarah F. spoke about a fund raiser event from the Yaseen Foundation – a email regarding this was send out in early May to PMC members.
- Rick H. : Blood drive at LDS church on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1PM – 7PM
- Mujeeb I. talked about Meet a Muslim events
  - The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community has a national campaign called "Meet a Muslim" - #meetamuslim - (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/meetamuslim?lang=en>) where we have weekly informal conversations through appearances in public downtown areas in various bay area cities where we welcome the general public to ask any questions about Islam, and engage in a dialog that demystifies the true teachings of our peaceful religion.
  - We also have combined this with a sit down opportunity called Coffee, Cake, and True Islam hosted in South Bay (Milpitas), East Bay (Pleasanton), and coming soon to the Peninsula (San Mateo). For more information, please feel free to email [iftikhar.ahmed@ahmadiyya.us](mailto:iftikhar.ahmed@ahmadiyya.us) or [mujeeb.ijaz@ahmadiyya.us](mailto:mujeeb.ijaz@ahmadiyya.us) and/or call [408-883-2624](tel:408-883-2624) for specifics on location and timing as it changes week to week.

### **Next meeting is June 5<sup>th</sup> at Pacifica Inst in Burlingame**

- Program: “Sacrifice; the journey to purify our faith, body, and soul” by Deanna Kaya
- Also a training/info session on social media

Meeting ended with a closing prayer by Rev. Kristi D.