

Notes from Interfaith Friendship Committee meeting

Tuesday, Aug 28, 2012

Held at Temple Beth El library

Attended:

Dick Heiman; Florence Beier; Rolf Beier; Judy Maller; Joel Miller; Judy Miller; Joyce Share; Pam Mayer; David Krakower; Arleigh Grossman; Judy Bloom; Michele Epstein; Rabbi Eisner; Phil Strause

Florence facilitated; Joel took notes.

Judy Maller talked about **Peace Village** 40 registered (wanted a few more)

Florence suggested hooking up Debbie ? (Peace Village organizer) with North Peninsula group. Overall very successful

How to get more members in IFC?

- Some people don't want to go to meetings. Events only for some people are a possibility.
- David: how can we market our group? Phil suggested contacting Faye Starr (from PTBE board).
- Rabbi Dennis: keep PTBE board apprised about IFC – maybe do a presentation.

Strategy: Dick talked about history – building on Freedom Seder. Development of North Peninsula group. Strength of leadership. Asked Rabbi what his thoughts are.

Community Event recaps. Rabbi thought it was great. He met a Franciscan sister from Burlingame and discussed how her congregation can be involved. Rabbi also wants a list of groups and their leaders that attended on Sunday to send a letter of thanks.

How can we reach out to Sikh community?

Rabbi Eisner's comments: spoke about recent meeting with 100 rabbis, JCRC, AIPAC, etc, PTBE IFC group was mentioned at this meeting as a model and held in high esteem. Rabbi was very proud. We may to call on our interfaith relationships when some world event happens, He said that he wanted to work to get more North peninsula congregations and rabbis involved in our North peninsula group.

Dick said that a goal was to have Peninsula Temple Sholom to have a similar IFC group similar to PTBE. Also a similar goal for Temple Sinai (but has not progressed.)

Rabbi Dennis suggested we ask Rabbi Jay Miller to attend our meetings, as he is very versed in interfaith education, etc.

Rabbi Dennis also suggested a trip to Israel along with Christians.

Relationship of our committee with the new North Peninsula Consortium

- Judy Miller suggested redundancy with IFC group and North Peninsula group.
- Rabbi explained in detail on how sometimes PTBE can do things together with others and other times we do it separately and keep our own identity. He gave examples of when are we better together and when should we work separately.
- Dick and Florence and Arleigh also explained on how activities can work separately and also successfully
- Joyce said that our group needs to clarify and concentrate on fewer tasks. Possible have others help at events and not necessarily attend meetings.
- Phil: don't measure success by how large the committee is, but rather but our successes.

- Rabbi Dennis: keep PTBE board apprised about IFC – maybe do a presentation.
- Judy Bloom seconded idea of inviting Rabbi Jay Miller to our group. She also suggested that not everyone from our IFC group attend the North Peninsula meetings. Maybe a rotating smaller group.

Clergy Outreach: Michele & Joyce to meet with St. Barts and Deacon John and others to see how we could plug in and help them with their project to assist elderly. (As a separate IFC activity).

Other: Judy Maller suggested an Israel initiative on our agenda

Joel, Florence, and Arleigh will attend the North Peninsula IFC meeting on September 5th.

We will promote attendance at the interfaith immigration event at PTBE on October 4. We will also try to support the Sikh group that meets at PTBE once a month.

Joel will send out reminder for Sept 5th North Peninsula group meeting at PTBE in library. Joel has requested agenda from Lionel and Rev Kristi.

Next meeting for PTBE IFC is Tuesday October 23rd at PTBE.