

Minutes of 12/10/07 UUCE Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting

Present: Steve Votey, Tom Stipe, Pam Person, Betty Massie, Karen Wigglesworth, Kay Wilkins

Proposed Agenda Items: Action plan discussion
Moving meetings to Wednesday nights

Additional Agenda items: Focus the Nation event on 2/2/08
Repairs/Improvements to roof over mid-portion of the church building

- 1) Betty presented photos taken by David Towle documenting extensive heat loss (melted snow, icicles) on the roof over the middle part of the church building, particularly over the kitchen.

The Green Sanctuary Committee made a motion that the Board direct the Building Maintenance Committee to investigate roof and insulation issues over the mid-portion of the building.

Motion was made by Pam, seconded by Kay, passed unanimously.

Kay will present this motion to the Board at their meeting Thursday.

- 2) Pam brought up the subject of whether the Green Sanctuary committee is willing to take on sponsorship of the Focus the Nation event, scheduled for February 2, 2008 at UUCE, the organization of which was initiated under the sponsorship of the UUCE Peace & Justice committee. So far, there is a panel discussion planned, with Ted Koffman and Pam confirmed as panelists. Pam is also seeking someone from the Climate Change Institute for the panel.

Karen will do a brief presentation on the Global Warming discussion course, developed by the Maine Earth Institute, and sign up people interested in participating.

Tom suggested a computer be made available on the day of the event to allow participants to calculate their carbon footprint.

Pam will write up an article on this event for the January UUCE newsletter.

The question was raised as to whether other UUCE committees (Adult RE, Peace & Social Justice) would be willing to co-sponsor this event.

Kay will present the proposed program to the Board for their approval.

After discussion, the Green Sanctuary committee agreed to take on sponsorship & organizing of Focus the Nation & decided to form a task force to organize the event. The task force will consist of all GS committee members interested in getting involved with the project. The task force will meet on January 9, 2008 at 6 PM in the new Wednesday meeting format (see following).

- 3) Kay presented the proposed plan to shift committee meetings to Wednesday evenings

This idea was proposed by Leela as a way to build community and allow parents of small children to participate in committee work & so that children can see their friends in between Sundays.

The schedule will be: 6:00 – 6:30 PM “A bit of worship” followed by a simple meal (soup & Sandwich.

6:30 – 8:00 PM People go to their various meetings, Committees may interact with other committees meeting at the same time for efficiency.
Meetings end promptly at 8:00 PM

- 4) Pam presented a handout of “Things you can do for free (or almost free) to cut your use of gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, propane & electricity”

Kay and Steve will print up the handout on “green” green paper to be included as an insert in the January UUCE newsletter.

- 5) Steve presented an outline of Green Sanctuary Application:

Requirements are for a minimum of 12 activities spread over 4 focus areas:

- a. Worship & Celebration (2)
- b. Religious Education (2)
- c. Environmental Justice (2)
- d. Sustainable Living (4)

Additionally, two activities selected from any of the four focus areas

Activities were discussed which we can use to fulfill these requirements (recognizing that some activities may fit appropriately into more than one focus area):

Earth Day celebrations, Solstice observances
Focus the Nation event, Global warming course
Senior Youth project- home energy audit kit
Church-sponsored battery recycling
Switch church to use of “green” electricity
Continue support of CSA

Flo Reed and Karen Volkhausen were identified as good resources for information on issues of social & environmental justice on the international level.

Steve will write up the outline of our application for Green Sanctuary candidacy and forward to members of the GS committee.

Focus the Nation Task Force will meet January 9, 2008 at 6 PM

Next Green Sanctuary regular committee meeting will be January 30, 2008 at 6 PM