

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Marietta

Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting

12:30 p.m., Sunday, November 15, 2015

FUUSM RE building - parlor

Attending: Heather Royer, Jimmy Brooks, Dawn Hewitt, Adeline and Mike Bailey, Debra Miller and Jim Grecni, Gary Hamilton, Ralph Olander, Roger and Betsy Kalter, and board liaison Barbara Kidd.

Before opening the meeting, a group picture of the committee was taken.

Committee chair **Heather Royer** chaired the meeting.

Agenda

Just Dinner. At the October meeting, the committee voted to skip the November Just Dinner, avoiding the holiday season and allowing time to form a subcommittee to organize a Just Dinner in February. The usual date has been the third Friday of the month in the quarterly rotation; by consensus, February 19, 2016 was confirmed as the next Just Dinner date. **Caroline Putnam** and **Dawn Hewitt**, who had volunteered to be part of the subcommittee, will form the nucleus of the planning committee. Dawn described her difficulties in reaching other faith communities to invite them to the dinner, mostly due to bad contact information. **Adeline Bailey** mentioned a possible contact provided by an attendee at the MOV Climate Change response group that met in October. She will give the contact name and number to Dawn.

Area Environmental Group activities. The group for faith communities organized to respond to Pope Francis' recent encyclical will meet again on (I think) Thursday, November 19, in Parkersburg. (More specific information regarding time and place will be provided by **Cindy Taylor**.) The Citizens' Climate Lobby has held an organizational meeting for a Parkersburg group, and Dawn indicated that there is discussion about forming a Mid-Ohio Valley group as well.

Low Carbon Diet Fall Group. The fall LCD group has been rolled into the Religious Explorations sessions beginning on November 22 and running through January 16. Heather

suggested that GS promote the upcoming Low Carbon Diet group that will be offered at the 10 – 10:45 a.m. Adult RE time slot to the MOV climate change response group. She also recommended that **Mark Redd** promote the class within the congregation. It was noted that announcements have been conveyed in the order of service, and by Mark and **Darryl Ting** in the *Confluence*.

GS January 10 Worship Service. **Dawn Hewitt** and **Rebecca Phillips** have received suggestions from **Martha McGovern** about planning the service. **Jane Tumas-Serna** has already agreed to be Worship Associate. Heather said testimonials from some of the LCD group members had been suggested for inclusion in the service. **Ralph Olander** reminded the committee that the service theme revolves around ministry and how GS activities are a ministry.

Gardening Classes. Roger Kalter remarked that the Low Carbon Diet classes and January 10 service provided a great segue to the Garden Classes project. He is continuing to look for new leadership for this project that usually begins in late January or early February. Several possible organizers were suggested; Roger will contact FUUSM friend **Cindy Brown** and other Master Gardeners. Roger is willing to mentor new leaders and explain what's involved with getting the project rolling.

Solar Panels project. In October, **George Banziger** reported that it looks like solar panels will be added to FUUSM's proposed capital campaign, but how the purchase of the panels will be funded is still to be considered. **Gary Hamilton**, who is on the Buildings and Grounds committee, said there was no new information available at this time, but that the interests of GS are still being promoted. Gary said the cost of the panels is around \$50,000. Heather suggested talking to the congregation as a whole when the time is right for further, more specific steps, particularly regarding financing.

Marietta Recycle Center. GS's \$125 donation to the Recycle Center has been acknowledged; Heather will post the acknowledgement letter on the GS bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

It's Easy Being Green revisions. The **summer LCD group** will be meeting in mid-December. Dawn said they will put work on e-book revisions on their agenda.

Subcommittees/Chair Situation. Heather raised the topic by asking how we want the GS committee to operate. After discussion, the consensus was that we need to recruit additional leadership to form strong subcommittees. Since Heather will step down from chairing the committee at the end of the calendar year, Dawn proposed forming a co-chair system, with the

co-chairs overseeing the subcommittees. She is willing to serve as a co-chair; but, at this time, no one among the committee members present volunteered to share the duties with her. However, the projects, events, and programs GS administers were listed, and several volunteers from the core committee stepped up to work on recruiting and planning subcommittees, as follows:

Solar Panels – Roger Kalter

Just Dinner – Dawn Hewitt

Recycling – Mike Bailey

Earth Day Events (Parkersburg and Marietta) – Heather Royer

Spring Adult RE Classes – Heather Royer

Fair Trade Coffee Sales – Adeline Bailey

In the effort to get more people—especially new people--involved in GS activities, Heather suggested setting up a **recruitment table** during coffee hour after the GS service on January 10. Dawn agreed to help with it. **Debra Miller** offered to send an email announcement about GS recruitment plans to the Green list to get people thinking about it. There will also be information in the Confluence for December and January. More planning will be discussed at the December GS meeting.

Community Activities of interest.

Roger announced a **work party at the community dog park** in Jackson Hill Park, Marietta, set for 9:00 a.m. Friday, November 20, with work to be completed on Saturday, November 21. A smaller area for small dogs and puppies is to be created.

Dawn announced a **public meeting** on Tuesday, November 17 (6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Andrews Hall Great Room 203, Marietta College) about **protecting the Wayne National Forest**, where fracking interests are being considered by the Bureau of Land Management.

Adeline asked that the minutes reflect the committee's agreement by consensus to **continue our group memberships** in area environmental programs such as Friends of Lower Muskingum River and the Ohio Environmental Council if GS has sufficient funds to cover those memberships.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline Bailey, scribe