

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Marietta
Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting
12:42 p.m., Sunday, December 20, 2015
FUUSM RE building - parlor

Attending: Heather Royer, Dawn Hewitt, Adeline and Mike Bailey, Gary Hamilton, Ralph Olander, Mark and Nina Redd, Patty Troisi, Jane Tumas-Serna, and George Banziger.

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

Agenda

GS January 10 Worship Service. Dawn Hewitt and Rebecca Phillips have received suggestions from Martha McGovern about planning the service. Jane Tumas-Serna has been assigned to be Worship Associate for another service in January, but will switch to the GS service if no one else is available. It was suggested that Rebecca might agree to be the WA on January 10. Dawn and Rebecca have met to plan hymns and readings; they have chosen the title “Greening the Spirit” for the service. The plan is to have GS members speak for about five minutes on the following: history of GS – Mike Bailey; Earth Day activities and Parkersburg school successes – Heather Royer; Gardening and green eating – George Banziger; Low Carbon Diet – Mark Redd.

Recruitment Table and brochure. Heather is preparing a basic brochure, which she will send to GS list for comments. Plans for setting up a recruitment table during coffee hour after the GS service on January 10 were discussed briefly. The brochure should be ready for use at the recruitment table. Heather also mentioned trying to re-establish contact with Marietta College environmental groups. George said the contact should be through the college's Office of Civic Engagement.

Gardening Classes. Roger Kalter was not present to report on it, but he recently sent an email indicating that he had found a new coordinator for this project.

Adult RE Classes in April. Heather is the coordinator for the series. She is planning to offer a separate topic for each of the four Sundays in April, with different leaders for each class. George suggested that one topic should be solar panels, to keep the congregation interested in the project. Discussion about funding the solar project ensued. At the last meeting, the thought was that the solar panel project for the church would be part of the proposed capital campaign, but George said the capital campaign is deferred until February 2017. The steering committee is developing guiding principles for the campaign. Per Ralph Olander, who is on the steering committee, one principle being considered is “energy conservation and sustainability.” The principles and the projects included in the campaign will be put to the congregation. Gary Hamilton, speaking for Buildings and Grounds committee, said that roof repair work, which is scheduled for spring of 2016, will include any structural prep that is needed to support solar panels. Additionally, the price of panels is less than reported previously, down to \$43,000 instead of \$50,000. The idea of an investment plan to cover the solar project was raised. Mark Redd asked if that would be outside of the capital campaign and might be detrimental to the campaign's success. Nina Redd suggested that some visuals could be prepared in advance of the campaign to lobby for the solar project. The discussion of particulars on financing was tabled for the time being, but the discussion indicated that solar panels would be an excellent topic for the spring RE series.

Low Carbon Diet classes. Mark reported that there has been lots of interest in the Sunday RE class offering. Attendance has included 14-15 people total. The exchange of ideas and information has been most beneficial. The workbooks are somewhat outdated, as noted previously, so the group has been sharing more current information from their research.

Mike suggested that a LCD group be formed for the church building and practices, using a committee format to analyze data to see where we are now in energy usage and conservation. Mark will write up a proposal for that idea and present it at the next GS meeting.

It's Easy Being Green revisions. It was suggested that the RE group might want to help with revisions to the booklet. Some of their research and new information could be included.

Chair Situation. With the new subcommittee structure in place and a plan for recruiting new members, **Dawn Hewitt** has agreed to be the new coordinator for GS. Heather will train her in the administrative tasks, and will fill in when Dawn is away. Ralph will also help with training. The group expressed appreciation for Heather's work as chair and also thanked Dawn for stepping into the leadership role.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline Bailey, scribe