

Fort Collins Area Interfaith Council
www.ftcollinsinterfaithcouncil.org
Business Meeting of the Membership – Minutes
December 3, 2009

Heart of the Rockies Christian Church

The monthly business meeting was held on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at the Heart of the Rockies Christian Church preceding and following meetings of the various Standing Teams of the Council. President Garth McCann conducted the meeting, calling it to order at approximately 9:05 a.m. Sue Anderson of the host organization introduced Pastor Scott Hardin-Nieri who welcomed the group and offered a meditation. Approximately 25 persons were in attendance and introduced themselves.

Urgent Items/Timely Topics

- The Thanksgiving celebration at Har Shalom was wonderful and very successful, raising \$607 for the Winter Day Shelter.
- Homelessness Prevention is celebrating its anniversary. [See more in Advocacy Team report.]
- The Winter Day Shelter needs donations, including coffee, personal care items (small sizes), and activity items like crossword puzzles. They are feeding 50 or so persons at lunch.
- Efforts are continuing on a year-round day shelter. All these solutions are a piece of the whole complicated puzzle of homelessness.
- We'll be looking at an effective way to let member groups designate or restrict their donations.

- Someone left a tote bag at Blessed John XXIII on November 4. Contact Sandra Brown, 223.5405.

Team Reports

Communication and Membership Pat Wise reported

- Hosts are in place for 2010
- Our next meeting will be January 7 at the Salvation Army
- Representatives should follow up on the full completion of the Covenant forms which are due January 15 and follow up to ensure donations are made. An e-mail reminder can be sent to all reps if Bill Brown receives the text.
- Goals and responsibilities were reviewed and edited
- Annual reports are due by the second week in January
- Sue Anderson will track attendance
- Nancy Boswell will arrange follow up by the team on membership and attendance
- We'll begin to consider who next year's chair and co-chair will be

Programs, Activities and Advocacy JoAn Hopkins reported

- Evaluation forms will be available at the next meeting for the success of recent programs and how to embellish them.
- Advocacy – speaking for those who can't speak for themselves – includes making fact sheets available and constituting a moral voice. Some techniques are speaking, writing letters to the editor, attending the legislative breakfast at 7:15 next Monday, collecting agency names and their need for volunteers. An example of the last would be to bring programs at noon to the Winter Day Shelter. Let Helen Somersall know of groups that can come with a program. Catholic Charities will ensure that no proselytizing occurs.
- There's a need for more public awareness of IFC's presence and activities. The team asks the Communications Team to consider purchasing a banner and a portable display for tabletop.
- Sue Beck-Ferkiss announced the anniversary event of the Homelessness Prevention Initiative will be Saturday, December 5, beginning at 5:00 with cake and a vigil in Old Town Square followed by the annual youth sleep out at Plymouth Congregational.
- The February program meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal will be a poverty simulation. Representatives are encouraged to bring with them someone from their group who could or would host a simulation at their own faith group.
- January's program will be on unemployment.
- The team was asked to provide program content information earlier in order for representatives to turn it around to congregations.

Awards and Grants Carol Smith reported

- There's a wonderful group of people on the team
- They are 72 hours from finalizing team guidelines
- There will be more money to distribute in January than anticipated and the team will reconsider requests not fully underwritten previously and may ask other groups to send further requests

- Receipts for 2010 include a \$2800 already paid commitment and pledged donations of a further \$1900

Recording Secretary's Report Sandra Brown reported that the minutes of November 4, 2009, were distributed in the E-bulletin and a few hard copies were present. There were no questions or comments.

Treasurer's Report Carol Smith reported

November opening balance of \$7779.25

Income \$ 696.00

Ending balance \$8475.25

[\$4468.09 available for grants]

Announcements

- Team leaders were asked to check their team lists for accuracy to ensure all members are included
- A wish list for IFC administrative items, which would otherwise add to our costs, could be added to the E-bulletin. For example, the banner and tabletop display might be a donation by some business or individual for whom it would be a small effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Brown, Recording Secretary

Happy Year End and Glad Anticipation of 2010