

**Fort Collins Area Interfaith Council**  
**Monthly Business Meeting**  
**October 1, 2009**  
**Catholic Charities**

The monthly business meeting was held on Thursday, October 1, 2009, at Catholic Charities preceding and following meetings of the various Standing Teams of the Council. President Garth McCann conducted the meeting, calling it to order at approximately 9:10. Approximately 30 persons were in attendance. Kate Walker of Catholic Charities welcomed the group and offered a meditation. Those present introduced themselves, including Kay and Rick Bunch, new representatives from Community of Christ Church.

**Announcements**

- Bob Vangermeersch described the golf outing to benefit CROPWalk as disastrous in numbers of participants (4), but those who were there had a wonderful time, making \$800-\$1,000 for CROP. Consideration is necessary as to whether it's worth continuing the event given the amount of work.
- JoAn Hopkins asked for a book review leader on Speaking of Faith. Rich Thompson volunteered.
- Rich Thompson
  - Announced the third annual Thanksgiving meal will be at Har Shalom at 3:00 on November 22.
  - Thanked Bill Brown for electronically distributing the Covenant Forms and for maintenance of the roster
  - Introduced Laura Grette of Catholic Charities who announced that the winter shelter will again be at Community of Christ and that volunteer training will be on Tuesday, October 13 at 9:00 and Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30. The training is about an hour in length.
  - Kim Langto, shelter coordinator, hopes to provide a more structured experience at the shelter this year, including activities. The shelter will be open from 7:00 to 4:00 with lunch at noon. The shelter opens for the season on November 2.
- Kristi Stringley of Shepherd of the Hills announced their Alternative Giving Fair on November 7 and 8 and made brochures available for representatives to take back to their groups.

- The October 29 (third) meeting will be a meal with the residents at Catholic Charities. All were encouraged to bring their church leader for some experiential learning. Because of the numbers being served regularly, those who want to attend must make reservations with Kim Langto at 484.5010, X207. An additional alternative night will be offered as necessary.
- Cindi Rich announced that supplies for the severe weather shelter are needed, in an effort to reduce the costs to the host. She will send a more complete blurb for inclusion in the E-bulletin.

**Recording Secretary's Report.** Copies of the minutes of the Business Meeting of October 3 were distributed in the E-bulletin. Several hard copies were on hand. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer Carol Smith reported:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Beginning checkbook balance on September 1 | \$9385.48 |
| Income *                                   | \$ 525.00 |
| Administrative expenses:                   | 0         |
| Grants                                     | \$ 200.00 |
| Ending balance on September 31             | \$9710.48 |

\* An additional check was received, designated for 2010.

### **Team Reports.**

#### ***Awards and Grants***

- Carol Smith reported that the Team will request approval of the Executive Team for \$2500 to be distributed in October, comprising grants to the Disabled Resource Center, Food Bank, Women's Resource Center, Elderhaus, Homelessness Prevention, Neighbor to Neighbor, Center for Hope, Education & Life Training Center and Catholic Charities.
- In addition to the grant for the Food Bank, each member is asked to bring non-perishable food items to the next meeting.
- Next year the Team may recommend a mid-year deadline for grant requests, so that the Team may more effectively plan distribution and accommodate emergency requests.

#### ***Communication and Membership***

- Rich Thompson reported that more efficient use of the e-mail systems available through the web site is planned.
- Pat Wise reported that meeting sites are still needed for some of next year's meetings: the April 29 awards dinner, a 6 – 8:00 pm event; May; September (with 3 Thursdays); and November. Sign up at the next meeting.
- Cathie Waugh will continue to do the E-bulletin and will pick up sending press releases.

### *Programs, Advocacy and Activities*

- A communication glitch caused there to be no food at last month's program meeting; apologies for that.
- The team would like to form a group that would act as advocates ... a sort of Speaker's Bureau.
- The team's main push will be on homelessness with a view toward a permanent day shelter.
- A poverty simulation is a possible program for IFC.
- It is hoped that the day shelter could offer a room on Fridays for someone from IFC to provide activities. If successful, this would flow into planning for the permanent shelter.
- The team would like to create sample letters for advocacy.
- Garth has been asked to manage announcements/discussion at program meetings so that the program presenter will have a full allotment of time.
- The Team recommends we read "Same Kind of Different As Me," by Ron Hall and Denver Four, as useful information before attending the evening meal with shelter guests or volunteering for the winter shelter.
- The November Program will be on youth with a presentation on The Matthew's House.

Garth McCann closed the meeting with an inspirational thought from the Dalai Lama. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Brown,  
Recording Secretary