

THE INTERFAITH ALLIANCE OF ROCHESTER
+People of Faith Working Together For Justice in Public Policy+

Board Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2006
Held at Covenant United Methodist Church

Attending: P.Brayer, S.Chamberlin, B.J.Gottorff, P.Hammer, E.Herman, R.Herman, N.Jaschik, T.LeBeau, G.L'Esperance, M.Mich, G.Mott, M.Parsons, and G.Strothers. Member Guest- E.Lemon (Chair- Poverty Task Force). Guests- Elaine Johnson, Lakshmi Rao and Dolores Wynne.

1. Opening Reflection- by G.L'Esperance.

2. Minutes- Motion by P.Brayer; seconded by P.Hammer to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2006 meeting as distributed by email. Approved unanimously.

3. Cosponsorship- "Gathering of the Spirit"-a program scheduled for Sunday, September 10, 2006 in the afternoon (probably @ 3 PM), a 1- hour program. The main organizer is Peace Works. The theme will be what it means to live in a peaceful world. Motion by T. LeBeau; seconded by P.Brayer to cosponsor this event. Unanimously approved. Grata will try to find a volunteer to work on the planning committee for this.

4. Poverty Task Force- E.Lemon, chair, reported. Our Poverty Task Force will serve as the educational component of "Let Justice Roll." E.Lemon, with others, is ready to go to any institution (religious, educational, civic, etc. to make presentations using the DVD, "Faces of Poverty," the workbook and a power point presentation (to update the statistics). They now need "customers." We now need to create a process to identify the institutions and enlist them as exhibitors of the program. G.L'Esperance, at the request of M.Mich, agreed to draft a description of the program which could be used to obtain presentation engagements. The next meeting of the Task Force will be at 5:30 PM 5/16/06 at the Jewish Community Federation. The Federation has agreed to house the material. Currently our Treasury has \$1340.52 earmarked for the work of the Poverty Task Force (per M.Parsons).

5. Nominating Committee- R.Herman reported. The process is proceeding well. We should have close to a full class of 2009 and all four officer nominees.

6. Annual Meeting- N.Jaschik reported. The meeting will take place Sunday, June 4, 2006 at 4 PM at the Shults Center at Nazareth College. In addition to

the brief business meeting (including election of officers and Class of 2009 board members), we shall see a Rosa Parks film followed by a discussion facilitated by G.Wethers.

7. TIAR Web site- N.Jaschik reported. The TIAR web site, created by volunteer, Rev. Todd Goddard (He has refused any fee for his services. We shall pay only the expenses for the domain name and the rental fee for the site). Motion by T.LeBeau; seconded by S.Chamberlin to authorize the expenditure of up to \$100 to be used for such expenses. Passed unanimously. The site contains the previous two months' minutes, the past year's president's report, events, links, background information, a method to join including a downloadable form as well as other useful information. The site is : <<http://www.tia-roch.org>>. **N. Jaschik has agreed to serve as gate keeper for the web site. All material which will be posted on the site must be sent to N. Jaschik who will prepare it for posting.**

8. Memberships without fee-Motion by G.L'Esperance; seconded by T.LeBeau to grant membership without fee in appreciation of their service to TIAR to Andy Taylor, the custodian of Covenant United Methodist Church and to Rev.Todd Goddard who has created and agreed to maintain the TIAR Web Site. Passed unanimously. It was agreed the D. Bird, as membership chair, should draft letters to each recipient for N. Jaschik's signature.

9. Theocracy Watch (Joan Bokaer)- R, Herman reported. No change. He recommended we regularly check out the web site <theocracywatch.org>.

10. Farm Workers- G.Mott requested we send letters to our state Senators supporting the farm workers of N.Y. State to remove the legislative exclusions which deny them many basic rights including: a voluntary day of rest, overtime pay, unemployment insurance and the right to organize.

11. TIAR Archives- Larry Wittmer has offered the services of GRCC's Ecumenical and Interfaith Archives to serve as a depository for the TIAR archives. We would deed by gift our material to them subject to our right of access to the material. There will be a modest fee of about \$60 to cover storage related expenses. P.Brayer moved; E.Herman seconded a motion to accept this offer; unanimously approved. M.Parsons and P.Brayer volunteered to serve as liaisons for this project.

12. Faith in Action Dinner- June 6. 2006 at the Riverside Clarion Hotel on E.Main St. Reception- 530 PM; Dinner 615 PM. Donation- \$30. P. Hammer will be the recipient of the Metropolitan Award. Reservations may be made through Marie Gibson at GRCC. Anyone wishing to submit a nomination for an honoree should contact N.Jaschik. Motion by E.Herman; second by

S.Chamberlin to take a 1/4-page ad in the program book for \$40;The Executive Committee will design and approve the ad. Passed unanimously.

13. Meetings With County Legislators- Scheduled for 6/20/06 7-8 PM throughout the county. Motion by S.Chamberlin to cosponsor; seconded by E.Herman; unanimously approved.

14. Fair Elections Practices Committee- No report. S.Brown not present.

15. First Amendment Issues- No report. M.Lederman not present.

16. "State of Belief" (Welton Gaddy's radio show on Air America radio)
- We have been requested by TIA to contact WROC (950 AM) to try to get them to carry the program. P.Brayer and R.Herman volunteered to take on this project.

17. Moral Issues Values Statement- G.L'Esperance will contact S.Tayler to expedite a draft.

18. Interfaith Healthcare Coalition- M.Mich reported. A current goal is to obtain passage of State Senate bill S-4928 which calls for a study of health care options available.

19. Center For Sustainable Living- G.Mott distributed a folder.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 18, 2006 at 4 PM at Covenant United Methodist Church, Culver at Parsells). The next Executive Committee meeting will be Wednesday May 10, 2006 at 8 AM at the South Wedge Diner, S.Clinton Ave. south of S.Goodman St.