

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

Board Meeting Minutes
September 20,2007

Attending: D.Bird, P.Brayer, S.Chamberlin, G.L'Esperance, P.Hammer, E.Herman, R.Herman, N.Jaschik, T.LeBeau, G.Mott, J.Noronha, H.Parreno, P.Peters, G.Strother, W.Spilly, D.White, M.Wienk, and G.Williams. Guest- Member Guests- Marvin Morris and Marie Parsons.

- 1. Opening Reflection-** provided by G.L'Esperance and delivered by M.Wienk and G.Strothers.
- 2. Minutes-** Motion by W.Spilly; seconded by H.Parreno to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2007 annual meeting as distributed by e-mail. Approved unanimously.
- 3. "Reinventing the Property Tax"-** TIAR member Marvin Morris presented his plan to provide a replacement for the current form of property tax. He also distributed a handout and requested that the TIAR board consider at its next meeting endorsing and supporting that plan.
- 4. Interfaith Fast-** G.L'Esperance reported and reminded of the Interfaith Fast scheduled for October 6,7 and 8,2007 to support peace and the end of the Iraq War.
- 5. The letter of criticism of TIAR and the League of Women Voters from Timothy Lancaster re the Fair Elections Practices Committee-** This letter was quite baseless and no direct response will be made by TIAR. (Subsequently see the excellent article re this issue in the 9/26/07 issue of City Newspaper.)
- 6. Children's Zone-** G.Williams reported his concern that there has been a significant decline in the process of creating this project. E.Herman volunteered to gather some additional information and report back at our next meeting. (Subsequent to our meeting we learned that Rob Brown will speak about the Children's Zone at Downtown United Presbyterian Church (DUPC) on Sunday October 1,2007 at 9:45 AM.
- 7. Rochester Voter Preparation Series-** S.Chamberlin moved; P.Brayer seconded a motion to donate \$ 50 to this project. Approved unanimously.
- 8. FEPC-** This project (joint with league of Women Voters has been very active processing and deciding complaints in the primary and post-primary election process.
- 9. Rochester Voter Alliance for 2008-** G.L'Esperance and P.Brayer will work on an application to TIA to help fund an intern to work on this project for the 2008 election. Other groups are also interested in this project to register voters. E.herman moved; S.Chamberlin seconded to make this project high priority for TIAR for the coming year. Approved unanimously.

10. Priorities for the coming year- After a discussion it was agreed that priorities for the coming year will include the Children's Zone. A motion to this effect was made by P.Peters; seconded by S.Chamberlin. Approved unanimously.

11. Hope Initiative- (via BethEl Church- (to obtain furniture for the poor and coordinate the burial fund) The consensus was that the burial fund needs more advocacy than has occurred to date.

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 4 PM at Covenant United Methodist Church, (Culver at Parsells).