

THE INTERFAITH ALLIANCE OF ROCHESTER
+People of Faith Working Together For Justice in Public Policy+
Board Meeting Minutes
November 20,2008

Attending: D.Bird, P.Brayer, S.Chamberlin, G.L'Esperance, R.Herman, M.Hickey, N.Jaschik, E.Johnson, D.McNitt, G.Mott, J.Noronha, H.Parreno, W.Spilly, and M.Wienk. Member Guests- Marie Parsons.

1. Opening Reflection- By M.Hickey.

2. Immigration- H.Parreno reported. The committee met and is coordinating with other groups on issues with which they can work together.

3. Rochester Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE)- Some changes are anticipated in the near future in connection with a probable change in the ownership of the hotel.

4. Poverty- P.Brayer reported. Duane Palyka has completed his work on the poverty dvd. There will be a meeting on Wed. 12/3/08 at 2 PM at Covenant United Methodist Church, Culver at Parsells to review the revised DVD. Anyone interested is invited to attend. There will also be a task force (chaired by R.Herman) which will include E.Johnson and P.Brayer, among others, to work on a process to obtain presentation bookings.

5. Rochester Voters Alliance- P.Brayer: The process was very successful. The number of voters registered should exceed 3500. @ 100 volunteers worked in various places including a group of students from School Without Walls. who will receive certificates, a tour of the Susan B. Anthony House which will include box lunches. Some funds may remain, the disposition of which will need to be determined.

6. Let Justice Roll- N.Jaschik reported. LJR met 11/6/08; they are discussing future role. A possible project is being discussed to assist those filing applications at Social Services.

7. Membership- D.Bird reported. Letters and bills were prepared 11/20/08. Payment for 2009 is requested by 1/31/09.

8. Spiritus Anti Racism Commission (SPARC)- S.Chamberlin reported. They had learned a walking meditation.

9. Future financial contributions by TIAR-- A task force was appointed* to recommend guidelines for future financial contributions by TIAR. *R.Herman, chair; S.Chamberlin, P.Brayer, J.Noronha, N.Jaschik, G.L'Esperance and I.Morrison.

10. Nominating Committee- G.L'Esperance, chair, reported. The committee will meet in January and March 2009 and at such other times as necessary with the goal of reporting to the board at the April or May 2009 board meeting.

11. Interfaith Alliance- we have received indications that national is in need of additional funds. Motion by G.Mott; seconded by G.L'Esperance to make a contribution. After a discussion, motion by M.Hickey; seconded by D.McNitt to table the motion to the December board meeting to enable S.Chamberlin to contact national and obtain more information. Motion to table passed unanimously

12. Health Care- J.Noronha reported. He distributed a document produced by the Interfaith Healthcare Coalition (part of GRCC). Peter Mott and J.Noronha have been extensively involved in this issue. They seek to use the New Jersey plan as a model for the other 49 states. They seek a “public outcry” of support. We shall need a further understanding as to what the role of TIAR could be.

13. Immigration - A rally is scheduled for 12/10/08 at 330 PM at the Border Patrol facility at 170 Pattonwood Drive (behind Cipriani's Italian Grill,(150 Pattonwood Dr). Motion by E.Johnson; seconded by P.Brayer to cosponsor this event. Passed unanimously.

14. Push to raise the welfare grant after 18 years at the current level- Motion by N.Jaschik; seconded by M.Wienk to authorize TIAR to sign a letter to Governor Paterson as part of a group. Passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 18, 2008 at 4 PM at Covenant United Methodist Church, Culver at Parsells. Church.