

Simpler Living Committee Meeting Minutes 2/11/10

1. Opening Prayer offered by Carolyn
2. Announcements
 - 2.1. It was proposed that Phil and Grace be co-conveners for 3/10-3/11. This was agreed upon unanimously.
 - 2.2. Cassie will be stepping off the committee, effective immediately. She will continue to be available to help with some individual projects. She shared with us her desire to see more young people engaged with the work of the committee. To that end, she proposed a joint event with the Urban Collective, a social event or possibly even a “contra dance” at the Cathedral or another venue.
 - 2.3. Nearing the 1 year anniversary of the committee, we discussed the committee's strengths and weaknesses, accomplishments and goals. Cassie raised the following points: some have described the committee's efforts as “scattered”; we need to establish clear goals and a clearer focus; to do this, we might focus on particular topics which might be assigned to committee members; we should create a mission statement (our vision statement having already been written); our intra-committee emails should be more targeted to avoid overwhelming members with communications; we need to examine our interactions at meetings, with ongoing assessments and space to share personal feelings within the meetings themselves. Phil proposed a meeting to evaluate our first year of Simpler Living and establish goals. This meeting has been tentatively set for 6-7pm on March 18th at Phil's house, followed by a simple potluck dinner and the regular committee meeting until 9pm.
 - 2.4. Phil and Grace will meet with Allisyn who is our current Staff Liaison since Catherine stepped down. Anyone else on the committee who wants to join can do so and Phil will keep us in the loop regarding the time of the meeting.
 - 2.5. SL eco-bags almost sold-out. Phil will count how many remain and report back. Following this we may need a point person to facilitate restocking.
3. We discussed Gary's proposal that we invite members of our SL group (i.e. those on our mailing list) to attend SL Committee meetings. This could be beneficial for attracting new committee members as well. We decided to try this for a certain evaluation period beginning with the April 2010 meeting. An announcement will be sent via email one week prior to that meeting and the announcement will include mention of our desire to have more committee members as well.
4. Projects
 - 4.1. SL Library: we decided to house our materials in the Cathedral Library. We will ask the current Librarian if we may keep them within a separate Peace & Justice section. Carolyn will contact the Librarian regarding this.
 - 4.2. Phil reported on the progress of the Camp Stevens Retreat planned for May 15. The previous meeting was enthusiastic and well organized. The next planning meeting is March 3 at Islamic Center of San Diego and everyone on the committee is welcome to attend.
 - 4.3. We discussed possible projects for Earth Day, Sun 4/18. Could we organize something with the children at the Cathedral, possibly making banners to be used in the Sunday procession? Could we sponsor or participate in a clean-up event, at the park or a beach, either on Saturday 4/17 or Sunday? Phil and Grace will investigate. Could we organize a Cathedral group to visit the Earth Day activities following Sunday services? Could we actively (and officially?) participate in some way, possibly via liturgy or ritual? Robert will investigate. These ideas will also be shared with Allisyn during Phil and Grace's meeting with her.

- 4.4. Phil raised the question of having SL Tips regarding “green” restaurants. It was decided that, as long as we do not directly “promote” individual businesses, it would be fine to inform our members regarding restaurants that practice environmentally sound practices. Also, Carolyn shared that she has collected numerous tips from a daily calendar that could be used for our SL Tips column. She will use something from this for next month.
- 4.5. Grace updated us on the “Growing Justice and Faith” project. At some point in the near future she will ask others in our group to consider getting involved by reading/reviewing materials. Also, she will keep an eye out for books that could be used for a summer reading project for the Cathedral at large.
5. Next meeting—3/18/10, 6pm to 9pm (including dinner at 7pm) at Phil's house.
6. Concluding prayer offered by Carolyn.