

Church of the Nativity
VOICE-Buffalo Social Justice Team Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm.

Present: Phillip Siddons, Linda Siddons, Nancy Kresge, Helen Cyrulik, Bette Brunish, Jan Losi, MaryAnn Sheldon, Carol Horvath.

1. Opening Prayer: Phillip Siddons.
2. Acceptance of Minutes.
3. Organizing People: Nancy had a one-on-one with a church member and also recruited her as a new member of this team.
4. Education Follow Ups: Maria Whyte will speak after church service on Sunday, September 14; Topic: Poverty. A lunch will be provided consisting of store bought boxed Mac & Cheese and Bologna sandwiches. Beverages of tea and coffee will be provided too.
Joseph Heary, Director of Friends of Night People will be invited to speak at a "Moment of Concern" at the beginning of the church service. We thought this would be a good way to start the discussion about homelessness and poverty and then Maria would follow up with her presentation. Invite your family and friends.
5. 8/24/08 Table Talk Preparations: See June 4th minutes.
Breakfast at 8:30am. Breakfast pizza; free will offering. Fruit: Linda, Helen.
Coffee, tea and juice to be provided.
Title of Program: "Visions of a Just Community".
A letter will be sent to the congregation. Ask Pastor Dan.
Letters were sent today to Table Leaders.
Training for Table Leaders: August 10 at 11:30am after church.
Sign up sheet to be posted in the Narthex by August 1.
Chair of Event: Nancy Kresge. Will ask Pastor Dan or Ruth to open.
Worship Leader: Ken Neal-he has accepted.
Recorder of Event: Phillip Siddons. He will set up a computer and projector and type up on the screen and then will type up notes for distribution.
Postcard size reminder: Nancy get cards, Phil will print.
Logistics: Linda and MaryAnn. Round tables? Card tables? # of people per table: 4 too few, 6-8 at table. Use Nancy Freeland "Talking Points".
Eat: 8:30am – 9 am.
Table Talk: 9am – 10am.
Report Back: 10am – 10:30am.
Close: Nancy Kresge.

6. Termination of Nancy Freeland as VB Lead Organizer: Nancy has been the VB Lead Organizer for 12 years. An evaluation meeting was held by the VB Board on July 1st. Nancy Freeland was notified the next day. She is terminated as of December 31, 2008 and is to focus on the upcoming Public Meeting scheduled for October 16th. Or she may leave sooner with a severance package. Nancy Freeland has decided to stay until December. The committee found this to be very disturbing news and offered Nancy Kresge and Nancy Freeland our full support in anyway possible.
7. Upcoming Meetings: Monthly meeting on Mon. 7/21 at Unity Church at 7pm.
Our Team meeting: Monday August 11th at 7pm.
Public Meeting: October 16,2008.
On July 17 (this Thursday) at meeting at Adam's Mark, at 1-3pm of the Regional Advisory Group, Policy meeting of Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation (GBNRTC). Purpose: citizens advisory group to advise and influence the agenda of the GBNRTC which controls all state & federal funding for transportation projects in Erie & Niagara Counties.
8. Evaluation & Prayer: "disturbing news, disillusioning, disheartening"
"Watch your tongue, heed your words, you will save yourself a lot of grief". Closing Prayer: MaryAnn.

Meeting adjourned: 8:35pm.

Next meeting: Monday, August 11, 2008 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Cyrulik