

Unity in Edinboro
Board Meeting
September 26, 2010

PRESENT: Ray Sammartino, Leona Bickel, Joseph Briggs, Shelly Ropp, Cheryl Wenslow

OTHER: Joanne

ABSENT: Martin Maly

1. Open with prayer-12:30
2. Minutes- JB/SR Unanimous
3. Financials- Ray suggested we let the congregation know at the congregational meeting that our finances have been moving in a direction that could create an issue if it is not reversed. CW/LB
4. Old Business
 - a. Board Nominations—Shelly spoke with Barry Hardman who is willing to run. Cheryl Wenslow is willing to run for another term.
 - b. Tibetan Monk's visit—see minister's report
 - c. AMTA church rental—Joanne communicated the rental fee of \$150 per day. It was shared that they had never been asked to pay more than \$75 total. They declined pursuing rental of the space. Do we want to have further discussion on this? If another group approaches us, would we be more flexible? Is there benefit to allowing a group to use the space without receiving a large rental fee? Can we allow someone to use this space without a fee if their message is in alignment with our message? Can we be aware of groups (i.e. Alanon, AA, health group etc.) that need a meeting space. Shelly suggested that if there is a fee for what they are doing, we could ask for a portion. If there is no fee, then we could simply have a freewill offering. Cheryl suggested the possibility of placing an ad in the Edinboro paper for this purpose. Cheryl will check with the newspaper and see what the cost of an ad would be.
 - d. Quarterly Activities Group—We are planning to volunteer at 2nd Harvest Food Bank on October 23 from 9-2. Joanne will send Ray an email as to the number of volunteers.
 - e. Opening to a greater view of spiritual community—see question in minister's report
 - f. Core Vision Council-together we thrive program begins Oct. 31. Shelly will organize volunteers for lunch between service/group discussion
5. New Business:
 - a. Annual Meeting:
 - Leona will read minutes
 - Cheryl will share the financials
 - Nominations for board will be presented
 - Any questions will be taken
6. Next meeting date-October 24 at 9.
7. Closing Prayer

Rev. Joanne Rowden
Minister's Report
September 18, 2010

1. Tibetan Monks visit:
 - a. Approximately 120-130 people attended the event at Edinboro University
 - b. Approximately 50 people attended the Thursday Empowerment Ritual
 - c. Approximately 60 people attended the Friday Healing Ritual
 - d. Approximately 20 people attended the daily meditation workshops
 - i. Due to the high interest in meditation, it was asked whether a group would like to meet at Unity in Edinboro on a continuous basis
 - ii. 10 people expressed a desire to do so. A facilitator was chosen (David Devine & Gordon Abernathy) to get in touch with the group, determine the time they would like to meet, and coordinate it with Joanne.
 - e. Approximately 50 people attended the Saturday Images of Monastic Life presentation
 - f. Welcome packets and Unity Information was available throughout the week. Joanne invited people to visit our community if they were looking for a spiritual community that was open and accepting.
 - g. The monks donated \$165 to Unity in Edinboro for hosting the event. This is the first time we have received something back from the monks, and we are grateful for their willingness to share a donation with us.
2. Ongoing Wednesday groups
 - a. Conversation Café at noon is growing in attendance/interest. The ongoing discussion has been well received.
 - b. Wednesday evening discussion currently facilitated by Joseph. The group is discussing Heart-Centered Metaphysics written by Rev. Paul Hasselback. Perhaps Joseph can give us an update on how that group is being received.
3. I am in the question of—
 - a. Can we expand the idea of Unity in Edinboro being a church which focuses on mainly offering a Sunday service, to be a Spiritual community that offers a variety of programs and activities that support spiritual growth. Perhaps there are opportunities to tap into of people who are not interested in attending a worship service, but may be interested in some other form of support for spiritual growth. Is this of interest to us to pursue? Does anyone have any thoughts about this?
4. The Core Vision Council is meeting Friday, September 24. I will have more information about this meeting on Sunday, September 26.