

9th Grade Trip Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2018

Introductions:

Arthur Fitt (RA, Worship, Chaplain), Melinda McGann (Chair), Yvonne Wilken (1st Universalist DRE), Annie Scott (JUC DRE), Mitch Pingel (Coordinator), Peggy Pingel (home communications), Claire Bennett, Adam Ramsay (RA, Food Coordinator), Amanda Ramsay (RA), Becki Martin (Boulder Rep), Erin Kenworthy (1st Unitarian DRE)

Budget Review

Mitch provided printouts of last year's complete budget and this year's to date. There are still a few church assessments due and fundraisers to be held.

Trip Preparedness

31 trippers and 8 responsible adults are ready to go down the road

Adam needs the plan for meal locations along the trip

There is one tripper rebelling against the dress code for the trip and has been counselled that he will not go on the trip if appropriate clothing is not packed. We reviewed the dress code with the DREs in attendance to educate them on what and why of the dress code.

Retreat Reviews

November was moved from Fort Collins to Greeley. The community was not responding to the "hello" that signaled an announcement. The trippers were empowered to create their own which has worked well ever since.

January was at JUC with no issues.

March went well with more concrete trip preparedness such as stove assembly and buddy lists. There were four covenant violations and the new form was filled out and shared. Trippers asked to have a spirit committee for the trip. This will not replace the blue box but supplement communications and foster peer-to-peer problem solving.

Review of the Report Log

Since the above reports were the first time they have been used, we used this as an opportunity to evaluate the reporting process as well. Seeing as how these are still a work in progress, the following protocol will be in place during the upcoming trip:

Step 1: First response and safety by trip RAs

Step 2: Notification of parents by trip RAs

Step 3: Notification of tripper's church leadership by Peggy or Melinda

Step 4: Post trip sharing of all logs to the wider church community for lessons learned and evaluation (tripper and RA names redacted).

Reporting needs to be a two-way process. If there is something concerning the trip that comes up from outside the trip events, the RE community has an obligation to make these known to trip leadership.

Safety Policy

The draft safety policy was discussed in detail. I defer to Arthur for the minutes for this discussion.

Vision and Mission Statement Brainstorming

Vision – What and Why

- Self-Discovery
- Living Our Faith

Mission – How

- Cultural Exchange
- Experiences
- Without Preconceptions
- Problem Solving
- Build Community
- Leadership Opportunities

Trip leave April 20th from First Universalist.

Next scheduled steering committee meeting is May 23.