

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2017

### Introductions:

Arthur Fitt (RA, Worship, Chaplain), Melinda McGann (Chair), Yvonne Wilken (1<sup>st</sup> Universalist DRE), Annie Scott (JUC DRE), Serina Blake (RA), Mitch Pingel (Coordinator), Peggy Pingel (home communications), Claire Bennet, Adam Ramsay (RA, Food Coordinator), Amanda Ramsay (RA), Becki Martin

### Review of schedule:

31 Trippers attended the first class in Boulder. 39 are on the roster. The November retreat has been moved to Greeley.

We still need a church to host the reunion retreat and service sometime in May.

### Future Steering Committee Meetings:

March 14, 2018, May 23, 2018, and July 25, 2018 at JUC 7-9pm.

### Finances:

Deposit made from payments brought to the first class. There may be one family asking for scholarship so far.

### Discussion about Steering Committee and participating churches and RE:

The trip was born from RE. As churches were added, the weekly classes logistically became the once-per-month class or retreat of the current schedule. Other changes/adaptations have been implemented such as:

9<sup>th</sup> Grade going to high school from being in junior high. This also affected the RE program—instead of 9<sup>th</sup> graders having their own curriculum such as Coming of Age, this age group is in YRUU (who self-determine their activities).

The RE community no longer meets face to face so our liaison vehicle between the trip and this group has been difficult.

The ministers also no longer meet face to face which is another liaison opportunity lost.

Church representation on the steering committee has dwindled to a few ex-RAs, current RAs, and coordinators.

### Ideas to breach the gap:

Dedicated steering committee member to be a point of contact for churches/RE.

Newsletter articles describing the trip, its history, current events, and benefits.

Cloud storage for steering committee documents including meeting minutes, covenant, policy documents, and curriculum. (Underway)

Encourage representation from the participating churches to the steering committee.

Formalize the relationship between the steering committee and the participating churches. This needs more brainstorming about how this could work (charter, non-profit application, LREDA membership, single church or group adoption/sponsorship). And with whom is this relationship made?

Continue writing and formalizing a Mission and Vision Statement and Safety Policy. (Underway)

Continue addressing concerns raised two years ago.

Encourage churches to host the reunion service and retreat or similar activity to educate the congregations about the trip.