

Green Committee Minutes

Date: 8/23/2011

Place: Pastoral Center Conference Room 1

Attendants: Katia, Laisz, Ann, Eleanor, Laura

Faith Sharing:

Prayer for Green Committee, submitted by Elizabeth Fitting and read by Katia. We will use this as our default opening prayer for all future meetings.

The whole meeting was dedicated to preparing for the parish picnic, where we will be given TWO tables next to the drinks station and under the shade:

Bike to Mass raffle:

Collected 37 forms so far, STA (11), OLR (23), SAG (3)

Received donations from Cardinal and Mike's Bike, will pursue more. (Update: Palo Alto Bicycles and Velo Tech has verbally committed to making some donations and will call me to pick up items when ready.)

If necessary buy them: lock, bell, pump, fix-it kit, reflective bands for pants.

Katia to see if the green grocery bags from the Diocese are still available.

Parishioners have difficulties finding the entry forms. (Update: I added full color flyers at all entrances and put neon green forms on whatever tables, benches, shelves where bulletins are also being placed.)

When names are drawn, winners should be allowed to pick prizes. (Update: At the Picnic meeting, everyone thinks I should not change the rule, but rather save the leftover items for the absentees. Also, we are assigned the time slot of around 12:45 to 12:55. Winners should go to the green table to pick up prizes.)

Invite Walt to be MC for drawing, announce the statistics among site, honor the frequent biker/walker, also follow up by printing in bulletins. (Update: Walt gladly accepts the assignment.)

Bottled vs Tap Water Taste Test:

Ann will bring cups, pitchers etc, will collect votes on "best tasting" and announce at end of picnic. According to experience, tap water is always second best!

Sorting game:

To ask for two or three volunteers from each site to do a relay race or a timed competition. (Update: picnic teams cautioned that it must be done "on the side", perhaps just at the Green table, because microphone time is extremely limited. Note that they want to conduct a free bingo game, which will be after the dancing programs, which is after our raffle drawing, after the introduction of new clergy and staff, etc.)

Literature:

St. Francis Pledge cards to be handed out at picnic – Ann will print 150 at Copy Factory. More cards from Monterey Bay Aquarium on Sea Food Choices.

Acterra to send literature and a representative, and will also bring a gadget to show how certain types of light bulbs use less electricity than others. Need to confirm whether we have an electrical outlet for that. May tap into Chris' sound system.

Zero Waste will also send literature. Katia to check if they have material, kit, etc., to help with our sorting game.

The Santa Clara County Water Board will also send literature.

Recruiting Efforts:

Laisz to prepare poster, using graphics from the internet, maybe also graphics used in previous and current Annual report (Laura to send).

Laura will print out a few copies of Annual reports to hand out.

Katia will have sign-up form on clip board.

Photography:

Laisz will bring camera and Laura will ask Roland, the official parish photographer, to take pictures of our activities, especially for raffle drawing, taste test, and sorting game. (Update: Roland agrees but needs reminder.)

Annual report:

Katia drafted the whole report in the form of the St. Francis Pledge and gave to Laura with some pictures taken when the bike rack was taken from SAG to STA. We made the submission deadline of Aug 15. With Roland and Laisz' help, we should have more pictures next year.

New projects:

- a. Building and Maintenance committee seeks recommendations for solar power – may direct them to Solar City, Solar Monkey, City of Palo Alto Solar Energy Workshop etc. Also can ask Gerard about other solar projects already taking place within Diocese of San Jose.
- b. Sept 24 is Moving Plant Day and we can go to Los Altos to join their event.
- c. May plan something for the Feast of St. Francis in October.

Valley Catholic has an article about Catholicism and the Green Movement.

The parish is adopting “Labor in the Pulpit”, whereby we get a special speaker to come talk about “food justice” at various Masses.

Next meeting: Pastoral Center, Sept 27th

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