

FRIENDS MEETING OF SAN ANTONIO

Called Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

July 30, 2017

Attending: Pat Sweet, Joni Mize, Gretchen Haynes, Jim Spickard, Peggy Dial, Ken Southwood, Marion Carter, Bill Sweet, Suzanne Wright Crain, James Goslin, Stephen Shearer, James Mize, Mimi Moore, Alice Partain.

Agenda

1. As requested, we have received the Purpose Statement from the organizing committee.

San Antonio Sanctuary Network Purpose Statement - July 18, 2017

In our increasingly polarized and divisive socio-political climate, the word “sanctuary” has become so fraught with controversy that we have lost sight of just what this concept means and its historical importance for peoples of faith. A key tenet for most of our faith traditions has always centered on welcoming the stranger, caring for people in need and allying ourselves in solidarity with the marginalized among us. Accordingly, we are committed to taking the initial step in creating a space of dialogue among peoples of faith in the San Antonio area to explore the ideals of sanctuary, assess their relevance, and if necessary map out concrete steps to embody them.

Will Friends Meeting of San Antonio join the San Antonio Sanctuary Network?

Discussion: Friend asked the question if FMSA was prepared to take on the structural changes to the Meeting House necessary to house immigrants. It was agreed that this is a separate question not being addressed in the current statement.

Approved with Gretchen Haynes acting as representative.

2. International Peace Day Concert, Wed. Sept 20

International Peace Day was established by the United Nations in 1981 and Meeting is considering holding a free concert in commemoration. Celebration Circle will participate, and the Islamic Center and Unitarian Universalist Church have expressed interest. We can reach out to the Peace Center and other peace churches, such as University Presbyterian, Mennonite and Unity churches to provide singers or instrumental numbers. Joni Mize will coordinate the planning. Since Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset, 7:33 that day, we could hold the concert in the courtyard from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments and water/drink could be available and a literature table for the various participants.

Will Friends Meeting of San Antonio host a free concert to commemorate International Peace Day?

Discussion: The free concert will no longer have a connection with Amnesty International as previously discussed. The Meeting House is used by Celebration Circle on Wednesdays, so use of the space is cleared. The Esperanza Center and Peace Center were contacted and they will have no conflicting events on that Wednesday.

Approved. Joni Mize agrees to act as coordinator.

Called Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business ended in silence.