

UUC Social Justice Council Meeting
June 19, 2021, Zoom Meeting
MINUTES

The Mission of the UUC Social Justice Council is to facilitate communication and cooperation between the Council members, Social Justice Committees, UUC Board of Trustees, UUC congregation, and the wider community.

Meeting Chair – Linda Stoller, Secretary – Marcia Bailey

Present: Susan Allen, Marcia Bailey, Marlene Calderone, Natasha Cruz-Knopf, Harriet Ha-Sidi, Susan Hegner, Linda Stoller, Eliseo Santana, and Eloise Hardman, Board liaison.

Linda opened the meeting with a reading, introductions, and a brief check-in.

Marlene moved approval of the minutes of May 15, 2021, and Eloise seconded that. Motion passed.

Marlene gave the treasurer's report. Marcia moved approval of the report and Susan seconded that. Motion passed.

Marcia moved and Harriet seconded raising our donation to LULAC to \$400.

New and Continuing Issues:

Harriet moved and Marcia seconded not having a SJ report until September.

The committee decided to have only one cause for the months of July and August. We decided to have donations go to Clothes for Kids.

We discussed whether or not to have meetings during the summer and decided we did not want to lose all momentum. Our next meeting will be July 17th.

Committee Reports:

Migrant Justice – Harriet wants to use the money left in the budget for rice and beans for the next distribution and then what money we collect for the annual rice and beans drive will be used for a distribution in the Spring.

Racial Justice – The committee has established a task force for adopting the 8th Principle. They plan to ask the Board for permission to move forward toward that objective, **have an educational presentation** (delete highlighted words) on June 30th and a September kickoff for educating the whole congregation.

FAST – Members are having corporate meetings for fund raising. One of the concentrations at our fall house meetings will be Care for Our Creation about climate change. We will be offering a program about forced migration in September. There are also members planning to attend a Pinellas County Council Meeting about another affordable housing project that doesn't include many affordable housing units and a statewide meeting about criminal justice reform.

Compassion & Choices – the meetings continue to be videos and discussion. Marcia is hoping to speak to LULAC about planning for end-of-life care and informing their families of their wishes, maybe in September.

LULAC/Puerto Rico Connect – there was a 2 day conference supporting bilingual language efforts sponsored by Florida International University. The groups are still supporting the 500 orphans in Honduras and sent 1500 vaccinations there for people over 18. Lynn Manuel Miranda donated 250 tickets for local people to attend his new play *Heights*. In mid-July Puerto Rico Connect will talk to locals about their family's needs and about the importance of registering to vote. There is also hope for getting some backpacks to distribute.

There was discussion about the importance of vaccination education and with school starting in mid-August, maybe there could be a program for donating supplies and backpacks. That program is popular with the congregation. That will be discussed at our next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned:

Next meeting is Sat., July 17, 2021

Marcia Bailey, Secretary