

**UUC Social Justice Council Meeting
January 16, 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, Barb Foley, Harriet Ha-Sidi and Linda Stoller. Eloise Hardman was present as Board liaison, and Susan Hegner was a visitor.

Linda opened the meeting with a reading.

Susan A moved approval of the minutes of December 19, 2020, and Marlene seconded that. Motion passed.

Marlene gave the treasurer's report. Marlene is working with UUC Treasurer Joe to clear up accounts that have been left. Any excess money will be transferred to the Better World Fund. Harriet moved that Marlene be able to make the decision about how to handle any leftover funds. Marcia seconded the motion which passed.

The Covid Community Non-profits for February and March were discussed. The Clearwater Free Clinic was chosen for February and The Haven, a women's shelter, was chosen for March.

Feeding America Tampa Bay, which was the Non-profit chosen for Christmas Eve, approached us about sponsoring their work. That involves a donation of \$2500. With the money from Christmas Eve and some additional donations, Marlene can manage to make that donation. Marcia moved we take that action. Barb seconded the motion which passed.

Committee Reports:

Migrant Farmworkers – rice and beans were distributed and the leftover money will be used for another distribution of rice and beans in the Spring when there isn't as much to harvest so workers need the assistance.

Racial Justice – articles are being put in the E-Octagram, a book list will be distributed, and we will co-sponsor "Breaking the Silence".

Environmental Justice – no report

Refugee Task Force – nothing new

End of Life Choices – Marcia is trying to have some video at all of the Compassion & Choices meetings to generate more discussion. The Zoom groups are very small, but the national organization has hired a new person to work in Florida, so the cause is moving along slowly.

Puerto Rico – no report

Fair Trade – no report

FAST – the group will have their network meeting in February preparing for the Nehemiah which will be both a Zoom and an auto rally. The goal is to have 2800 people in attendance. There are 44 network members in FAST. Our group is also working to get more affordable housing in Clearwater for those with very low incomes. Two units have been approved for St Petersburg for low income and one for slightly higher incomes in mid county.

Connections – no report

Ongoing Work:

Social Justice Report – there was no one available to give the report and not a lot to announce. Linda will inform Rev Dave that there will be no report. She will also take responsibility for typing up our reports and sending them in for the Social Justice Council records.

Evening and Open Issues – Someone from the Urban League is speaking at Open Issues.

UU Justice Florida – the group is organizing for the state legislative session which starts in March. Linda is our liason.

Pat McGivern Scholarships – a number of possibilities were discussed including Gift Cards for Women on the Way or for books for college students. Members will research other options so they may be discussed at the next meeting.

Sheriff in Pasco County – the letter from the Council was sent

Meeting Adjourned:

Next meeting is Sat., Feb 20, 2021

Marcia Bailey, Secretary