

Green Committee Minutes

Date: 9/27/2011

Place: Pastoral Center Conference Room 1

Attendants: Katia, Laisz, Ann, Laura, Gerard

Faith Sharing:

Prayer for Green Committee, submitted by Elizabeth Fitting and read by Katia.

1. Debriefing on Parish Picnic:

- Bike to Mass Raffle – 6 weeks, 48 Masses, only 124 entries, 3 per Mass only. 47 individuals taking part, perhaps many did not bother to fill in form, repeat next year? How many converts? Maybe just pick one weekend, have presiders ask parishioners to stand up at each mass and be applauded. **Need bulletin posting of collective CO2 reduction.**
- Bottled vs Tap Water Taste Test – Ann sent out email with overall results. **Need bulletin posting.**
- Sorting game: very popular, kids like the prizes.
- Acterra: Eight sign-ups for home energy audits.

2. Ideas for next year's picnic:

- Need announcements from Chris at mike, so people know what is going on at our table.
- More central location near where people sit / eat, yet in the shade.
- Should be mentioned in picnic bulletin insert so people would be expecting us.
- Try having kids plant seeds in cups.
- Think of more incentive to reward people.

3. Activity for Feast of St. Francis (weekend of Oct 2)

- Chris Lundin to get Fr. Matt's permission to lead congregation in the pledge, using overhead projector if available.
- Pledge cards to be sent to all three sites.
- Have pulpit announcements to invite people to take home.

4. Feasibility study of Solar project

- Katia is member of Bldg and Maint. Committee with Jerry Lucha, Ted Baer, Jim McLaughlin and Chuck Tully and will work with them.
- Gerard pointed out there are 6 sites in "Phase 1" of the Diocesan Solar Project. (Holy Spirit, Holy Family, St. Christopher, Queen of the Apostles and St. Lucy -- plus Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Los Altos have placed solar panels on rooftops, parking lots and in open, unused acreage at the cemetery.)
- Solar City is offering program whereby they pay for the installation and maintenance while property owner pays for the electricity they use, at a much lower rate than P G and E.

5. Outreach to SESS

- New principal Evelyn Rosa saw the sorting game at the picnic and showed great interest; plan to have school assembly on it.
- Will reach out and talk to her about about compostable supplies, trash separation, energy conservation measures (thermostats, closing doors, double-paned windows etc).
- Will the school have a garden like Ohlone?

6. Joining PA-CEAP faith segment

- To answer the call of their chair, Walter Hayes, we decided to be on their emailing group through yahoo, but most likely will NOT be able to attend their regular steering committee meetings.
- Current Faith Groups co-coordinator is Rabbi Adam Rosenwasser of Beth Ann Congregation.
- Upcoming meeting on September 29, 3:30 to 5:30 pm at city council chambers, "Adapting to climate change and Sea Level Rise" discussion. Katia wants to attend.

7. New items

- Time and Talent coming up.
- Try to get a slot from Spirituality Tuesday Assemblies (update: we have been assigned the last Tuesday of April 2012, topic: "leading a simple life").
- Oct 24th is Food Day (foodday.org). Many events scheduled locally, and at Stanford.
- Katia to go with Gerard to next Diocesan Green Committee Liaison meeting to learn about projects going on in our Diocese, especially solar ones.
- Faith Formation Conference coming up, we can do tabling.
- Advocacy opportunity: water issues, counter the call for defunding the EPA.
- Canopy: urban reforestation, let private properties (e.g. parishes) buy trees at wholesale prices and even donate the labor of planting the trees.
- What to do for 11/11/11 (check with CEAP).
- Swap Meet – for clothes, for books, for music CD's, DVD's, garden produce etc.

New vocab: GOOS Paper (Good On One Side paper), thanks to Katia's grandchild.

Next meeting: Pastoral Center, Oct 25, 7:30pm (BUT have since changed to Oct 24, the day before).