

Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting January 8, 2024

In attendance: Ginger, Janet, Debbie

1. Supply Status—Deb purchased 18 new thin terry facecloths for \$9.00 (donated).

Appear to be sufficient containers to use for coffee hour clean up and sharing—keep reminding. Deb contacted Mainspring liaison re: wax paper in place of Ziploc bags and received okay. Betty shared info with lunch-making “crew”.

2. Recycling Update

~YMCA display--(plastic bottles) Janet has tentative appointment with Y Director on January 12 re: status.

~CD recycling update—Janet will contact NH company by Feb. 15.

~church recycling—Janet has been taking plastic, Styrofoam, and cardboard/paper. She has updated signage in attempt to make it easier for folx to separate correctly. Deb posted sign re: waxed cartons (milk, juice)— not recyclable. Janet will continue to take recyclables.

New sexton hired; Janet will check with Parish Committee President re: sexton responsibilities as to trash removal.

~Newspaper sleeves—small number of church members continues to collect for group making sleeping mats.

3. Bulletin Board

Deb spoke with Social Justice (Betty) re: updating board regularly--maybe using monthly themes as basis. Deb updated board for Guest at your Table (November) and changed again for January.

Deb will speak with RE re: possibility of helping with maintenance of board.

4.KTC

Service will be April 14.

Theme--Interdependence Possible Topics- rhythms of life -The comfort of crows : a backyard year Margaret Renkl (see below); eco-poetry (Deb has resources—Craig Santos Perez; The Ecopoetry Anthology -Ann Fisher-Worth, Ed.; Black Nature-Camille Dungy, Ed.; Pacific Islander Eco-Literature); nature school- Fern Brook Middleboro, Blake Dinius (PCES). Deb had drafted an email to Fern Brook, and with the committee’s approval, sent email during meeting. Janet recommends clarity with these folks re: our contribution goes to KTC.

At their December meeting, the SJC agreed to support two months of share the plate for KTC for the upcoming year.

Possible speaker—Nick Fuller Googins, The Great Transition (climate fiction)—Maine author—Deb might have tenuous “in” through brother.

5. LFL –no update

Joe R. is slated to handle the repair or replacement of the LFL. GSC has \$142.54 which can be used toward supplies and payment. Joe is mulling possibilities for the project. He also curates the book selection on a regular basis—thanks, Joe!

6. Blue Drop Water Bridgewater—Aj

Deb will contact Aj.

7. Appliance replacement – No Update

Committee members will research models with bottom freezer units. Ginger contacted Eileen H. to join in fridge purchase process (\$ from Frank legacy). Discussion re: keeping vs. replacing fridge and purchasing new electric stove simultaneously to replace two current stoves—environmental considerations (including eliminating gas stove for health concerns).

Local appliance dealer with whom Janet had previously spoken is no longer in business.

Quent advises that new dehumidifier is needed for lower parish hall. Ginger will contact Facilities re: consider energy-efficiency when purchasing.

8. IP&L and Cool Congregations programs

[Take the Cool Congregations Challenge \(interfaithpowerandlight.org\)](https://interfaithpowerandlight.org)

~Deb had brief conversation with Tom St. T. (Facilities Committee) in August re: heat pump (mini-split) investigation for UPH. No update.

~Team floated the idea of listing all the initiatives taken by FP over past 15+ years (15 years since application as Green Sanctuary) to see if that would merit recognition. Deb will look into if we're interested—team will collaborate to generate list.* Need hard figures, like change in electricity usage, heating cost, water savings, etc.? Also shared info on NetZero by 2030 (see below). Topic for discussion with Rev. Jennifer.

9. Collaboration with Minister

Deb suggested arranging a meeting with Rev. Jennifer to discuss all things GS. **Ginger** will contact Rev. Jennifer with suggested dates.

Topics for discuss:

GSC mission and responsibilities; frustration/burn-out/how to attract new participants; ways to join forces with Rev. Jennifer for worship; worship resources; Cool Congregations

10. Next Meeting—TBD