

SJC Minutes THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

Attendees: Betty Gilson, Rachel Tedesco, AJ Derby, Laurie Lessner, Janet Dye

1. Check in.
2. Bank balance is \$5,111.62 of which \$834.58 is for *Read to Me, Father* and \$131.00 is for R E scholarships.
3. SJC films
 - a. For December the film is “The Pain Hustlers”. It is based on a true story. Liza dreams of a better life for herself and her daughter. Hired to work for a bankrupt pharmaceutical company, Liza skyrockets with sales and into the high life, putting her in the middle of a federal criminal conspiracy. In this riveting tale of desperation and deceit the 2023 crime drama viewers are taken on a gripping journey through the shadowy world of pharmaceutical startups and opioid racketeering. It is available on Netflix.
 - b. Betty said “Geronimo”, the November recommendation was wonderful.
 - c. We need suggestions for January and February.
 - i. For February, AJ suggested Unknown Images of Hiroshima, a documentary of the remaining survivors of the dropping of the bomb, on YouTube
 - ii. Betty said we’ll all look and try to find something
4. Plate selections
 - a. December is BAMSI. It is working with its community partners to establish a first of its kind drop-in center to support the needs of the chronically unhoused.
 - b. Also, we are suggesting people individually support the Wandering Heart program. Betty said they accept donations by ordering from their Amazon wishlist.
 - c. Suggestions needed for January.
 - i. Rachel asked about Mass Peace Action and we’ll do that one. They lobby for just causes in the legislature.
5. Lunches
 - a. MainSpring and Evelyn House lunches will continue same protocol for Thurs., Jan. 2, 2025.
 - b. Conway House lunches will be prepared on Sun., Jan. 12.
6. Green Sanctuary plans
 - a. In conjunction with a MassSave initiative for Houses of Worship, an audit of the church was conducted by AGI, an insulation contractor, on Dec. 2. First Parish may qualify for free or low-cost insulation improvements

through this program. Debbie is the liaison; Bob M. assisted her in providing information to the contractor.

- b. Janet talked about getting a mini-split and how it would be so efficient for the upper parish hall. It would save a lot of money and save energy. We already have electric so it would be so much better.
 - c. Committee members plan to review and update materials on the church website in the coming months.
7. Peace Committee projects
- a. Members have been doing research. At recent meeting decided to work with Mass Peace Action.
 - b. Investigating things to do for Peace and Climate focus. Will meet again soon to compare findings.
8. Welcoming Congregation Committee plans
- a. Betty suggested we look for ideas to protest against the Supreme Court and their rulings against LGBTQ+
9. Read to Me, Father
- a. Two more men have made recordings. - Betty said we'll keep working on allowing the men to do the video recordings but as of now, it's just audio.
 - b. One father was released when the judge ruled in his favor.
10. Report from Rev. Rachel
- a. Rachel talked about a lecture she attended about the Ukraine and Russians being able to reach some sort of compromise.
 - b. Read about MAPA's position on the Ukraine/Russian war at: <https://masspeaceaction.org/our-issues/ukraineatimeforpeace/>
 - c. [Emergency Vigil](#): Political leaders must pull back from nuclear brink in Ukraine, Saturday, December 7 at 12 noon, outside Park Street Station, Boston
 - d. Betty suggested an [article in The Atlantic](#) about the Palestinians and Israelis not coming to a solution because the leaders are not in favor of that.
 - e. The next lecture, sponsored by Mass Peace Action, is next Monday evening, Dec. 9th. The topic is anti-Palestinian racism in Mass. More information is [available online](#).
11. Other business
- a. Reviewed plans for the table at the Holly Day Faire, including Equal Exchange products. Janet is working on the schedule
 - b. We all are helping out with the fair in some manner.

Next meeting will be Thurs., Jan. 2, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Here is the zoom link.

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/8261399470>

Meeting ID: 826 139 9470

Passcode: fU78nu

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