

## **Green Sanctuary Committee Minutes June 4, 2024**

**Present: Janet, Ginger, Debbie**

**1. Supply Status/Cleaning service**—Air freshener from large restroom is missing. Janet suggests no air freshener replacement for present time.

Deb contacted PC re: cleaning service/eco-practices. PC is aware of recent oversights/omissions due to change in ability of church member who formerly headed Facilities and took care of innumerable duties. PC is working on re-assigning these responsibilities and determining a new system for trash removal.

Lots of recent church activities required extra restroom towels; the white facecloths purchased by David W. a while back proved very useful.

### **2. Recycling**

~YMCA Plastic Bottle display –Helen Byrne from the Y contacted Janet; the Y has paid to have Happy Frog Printing replicate the original materials. Janet and Shirley G. will follow up with placement of posters.

~church recycling—Janet continues to take recyclables, but items are often incorrectly sorted. Deb suggested summer service to educate church members (in an entertaining and informal manner) how to correctly sort/recycle items using available visuals at church and online resources for home.

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

### **3. Bulletin Board**

Deb contacted Social Justice Committee re: a bulletin board. It was agreed that SJC will be responsible for updating the board in June, possibly to remain throughout summer months.

### **4. Service thoughts**

~Kids To Camp Service collection is currently approximately \$1100. Committee members may add a bit more \$ before submitting to church administrator for “official” check to NRT. Ginger will deliver. KTC bulletin board will be removed on June 9.

Summer service -- July 7<sup>th</sup>—Topic?—Janet has leads on two possible speakers and is attempting contact. If a speaker is not available, service will focus on proper recycling (see item under church recycling) -game show format-- **recyclable or not??** —divide attendees into two groups to determine disposal of common items found in church recycling bins, visuals projected (facts and figures, etc), readings focused on stewardship of the earth, spiritual aspects of nature/resources, etc. Also emphasize reduce, reuse, other “r’s” ahead of recycling.

Deb will notify Worship Committee representative to confirm GSC ‘s service intention.

### **5. Annual Report**

Report has been submitted for June 9 meeting.

### **6. Movie Presentation**

IP&L is promoting the film **Cooked: Survival by Zip Code** (1 hr. 16 minutes in length), and offering a 50% discount to license for sharing. Deb also checked and the film can be rented/purchased more economically through Amazon Prime (\$3.99/\$5.99). Deb feels past film showings sponsored by GSC/SJC have had very low participation and that there might be other environmental films to explore if we wish to screen a film.

### **7. Appliance replacement update--none**

### **8. IP&L program\***

Deb provided info to PC via email; PC has not responded directly to this outreach as yet.

Deb will continue to follow.

### **9. Outreach-no update**

We’ll reach out in the fall with an evening meeting.

### **10. Next Meeting-Mon. June 17 @ 1:00 pm at Debbie’s**

**\* Only available for a few months!**

MassSave has launched a new program temporarily paying 100% of the cost of insulation, air sealing, and weatherization projects in houses of worship (HOW). Worship buildings, social halls, schools, and other faith community-owned buildings are eligible. This has great potential to lower costs and carbon emissions – weatherization often lowers heating/cooling costs 20% or more.

MassSave will pay 100% of the cost of weatherization projects like insulation, air sealing, weatherstripping. Note: program usually pays 70%. The program will run through the end of this year.

Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light is partnering with MassSave and one of their lead weatherization contractors, Advanced Green Insulation, to engage as many houses of worship in the state as we can. For each project MassIPL brings them, they will make a donation to support our work.

To participate:

1. Email Jim Nail at MassIPL, [jnail@massipl.org](mailto:jnail@massipl.org), and provide the house of worship name and address, a contact name, email address, and phone number.
2. Jim will forward the information to Advanced Green Insulation (AGI).
3. AGI will reach out to the contact to schedule the assessment.
4. AGI will send the proposal, including the MassSave incentive amount, likely within 2 - 4 weeks in Eversource territories, 4 - 8 weeks in National Grid territories.
5. Review, sign and return the proposal to AGI, and they will contact you to schedule the work.

Email to PC: It has been brought to our attention that the new cleaning company may not be using products that are “eco-friendly” and may be discarding trash bags that contain only a few items. Whose responsibility is it to communicate to them, Parish Committee of Facilities. We have strived for 15 plus years to uphold the UUA commitment to remain a GS.

We feel that the cleaning service needs to be informed on our green philosophy.