

Interfaith Tampa Bay Monthly Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2019

Present: Doral Pulley, Ali Abdul and members of the Interfaith TP organization (approximately 15-20)

The meeting opened with prayer and introductions.

Reports

Fr. Victor Ray reported on the Pride Worship service in June. There were two speakers and approximately 223 in attendance. The event collected about \$1000, which was donated to the Metro Trans Unit.

Presentation

President Doral Pulley led the presentation and discussion, which included:

- Review of ITB Bylaws and our purpose
 - Personal/professional growth
 - Unity of spirit
 - Develop spiritual life
 - Promote peace and dialogue
 - Advance social justice
- Goals – using the acronym SAFE (Our goals are - Support, Advocacy, Fellowship and Educate)
- Challenges facing ITB, including
 - Differing beliefs
 - Inclusive language
 - Full board members needed
 - Demanding schedules
 - Diversity acceptance
 - Cost of breakfast
 - Marketing
 - Choosing future events
- We then learned about the difference between similar terms that could be easily confused. A lively discussion helped to flesh out these terms.
 - Interfaith
 - Pluralism
 - Ecumenicalism

Call for new board members – due to recent resignations, we only have two board members now. Doral asked for volunteers and several members stepped forward:

- Secretary – Martha Abdullah
- Treasurer – Adam Gray

- Chaplain – Martha Stillson and Linda McLeod
- 501c3 committee – Vicoty Ray, Adam Gray and Sepitah (Baha'i)

Future Program ideas – there was an interest in training for civil dialogue. Linda McLeod will contact someone she knows from Courageous Conversation, and let Doral know.

Interfaith Week – Doral asked for a committee to head Interfaith Week. Three people volunteered:

- Neddy Astudillo
- Martha Abdullah
- Olga Fajardo

In addition, several members offered to host events. The list of these members was given to the committee heads to follow up on. The purpose of Interfaith Week is to hold prayer services and events that allow people to dialogue about their differences.

It was agreed to hold Interfaith Week October 20 – 27, 2019

Announcements (All those with announcements were encouraged to email Claudia with the full details so they can go on a FB event page.)

- Pluralism Lunch and Discussion – Church of Scientology/Tampa is holding a free lunch, Friday, July 19 at the Clearwater Ft. Harrison ballroom location. See website and FB for details or call Martha at 301-693-6663
- Not My Son – Friday July 19 at 6:30, Staybridge Suites with the Mayor and the Police Department
- World of Prayer – Sept. 12 at Unity
- Tuesday, July 23 6:30 pm – Westminster Palms – History of Religious Freedom in the Baptist Church with Adam Gray
- July 27 – The Baha'I community is celebrating a birthday. All are invited. Details to follow.
- March 5, 2020 – Interfaith Cruise event in Tampa. Details TBA. Contact Martha Abdullah for more information.
- Claudia asked all members to make use of our Mail Chimp and Facebook, as well as website for spreading the word about their events. This is one of the perks of membership.

Closing

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

Minutes submitted by Claudia McIvor

7/18/19