

**Seattle Dances of Universal Peace
Planning Meeting
10/18/2023**

Present: John (convener), Martha, Elizabeth, Ka (VfP), Phil, Helen (scribe), Zarifah, Jennifer,

Brief check-ins

Opening Dance: "Peace to the Children"

Treasurer's Report

Anticipated items were paid (insurance, website development). \$2063 remains in bank, independent of retreat money.

Interim Committee

No actions

Fall Regional Dance Camp

We did a final review of preparations for Nov. 3-5th at Camp Burton on Vashon Island. 72 registrants are confirmed with checks, another dozen or so have said they were coming but have not yet paid. So far everyone is coming all weekend. At least a dozen are new people to this retreat.

Program report: 18 dance leaders at this point, in 5 separate teams, each taking one session. One workshop session so far in the afternoon. Nuria is organizing musicians. Saturday morning will be our one zoom session. Helen and Elizabeth will set up zoom. There will be 3 live dances, then one each from both Canadian leaders on zoom, then 3 more live dances. Elizabeth is still considering where and how to set up the equipment.

Saturday night will include a simple remembrance ceremony for those who have passed. Maybe objects from nature on the altar? Photos can also be added or name of person written on leaves. Final decision of what to use is left to Elizabeth, with funds approved if needed. This might include marking pens and/or some electric candles for the evening altar. Our old stock of supplies will be checked first and if more candles are needed, there is a preference for buying the type that use AA or AAA batteries so that it is feasible to continue using them when the original batteries are depleted.

How to get decorations to Camp Burton? John has our Keystone decorations. Hassan can also bring things from Julia's collection. Decorations need to be at Camp Burton at noon. We could also use more people to help re-arrange the room. Carpooling is being arranged.

Covid precautions: Letter will ask for people to test before leaving. Phil and Helen can bring some extra tests for those who forgot or who develop symptoms. If the control line turns positive the reagent is still good, so out of date tests may well still work. Registration should include a direct question to each registrant about prior testing. The letter could also suggest bringing masks or extra tests in case someone tests positive. Elizabeth has wording from prior retreats which also suggests not being in crowded situations ahead of time.

New website

Helen has been oriented to modifying the site, and is working at tweaking the minutes page, and adding new photos. Zoom link is on website.

Global Peace Dance

Ka is working on GPD. Friends Church in Shoreline expressed enthusiasm about hosting it, but is not sure about having events that go so late. It could be a hybrid gathering if a Dance community member volunteers to make that happen. Other sites could be considered.

Contact Ka at hayrafatah@gmail.com if you have a site to offer or are interested in providing technology for a hybrid gathering.

FYI, Unity Zikrs have resumed at the Odd Fellows Hall in Ballard and the next one is scheduled for December 30.

Indoor winter dances

What dates and locations for monthly in-doors Dances? We will attempt to schedule on Saturday afternoons, starting in December.

John found 7400 Woodlawn/Emmaus Table location, which is 4 blocks north of PCC at Greenlake. Photos are on their website. It is accessible, and they are thrilled to work with us. They are available on weekends. Several folks (John, Martha, Ka, Phil, Jennifer) will view the space soon, possibly morning of 10/28. They will bring instruments and try sound. Space has potential for Aramaic Prayer in December. We need to explore what the financial options are. Interim committee can make a decision. We have enough money to rent this space if it works.

Martha looked at Haller Lake church, which is struggling with staff. Rooms are dark but large. No availability or financial info yet.

We agree that Northgate Community center is too expensive.

Next meeting:

Wed 11/29 4:30

Facilitator: Phil

Scribe: Helen

Interim committee: John, Ka, Phil

Closing Dance: "Montreal Peace Dance"