

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

October 29, 2005

Minnesota Valley UU Fellowship, Bloomington, MN

**Present:** Sam Wormley- Chair, Eric Severson, Suzanne Owens-Pike, Virginia Wolf, Elaine Rockwell, Gina Dugan, (Phil Lund for last hour)  
Iowa City Local Arrangements: Peggy Houston

**Minutes To:** Nancy Heege, Sarah Greene

**Introductions**

**Review Minutes of June 25, 2005-** Minutes accepted

**Agenda Accepted**

**Local Arrangements Report:** Peggy Houston  
Arrangements going pretty well. Sunday service will be at Englert Theater, a historic building (need to figure out piano for service).

Committee did not arrange for a social justice activity during the conference, but will invite people to bring supplies for the Homeless Shelter House, which the Iowa City church volunteers with (and homelessness and housing are important issues there).

Labyrinth will be set up in the Church on Saturday.

Local arrangements should designate someone to do announcements throughout the weekend. This person could make group informed about homelessness issue and our contribution to it.

The core planning committee is four people: Vicky Sieters, Nancy Noyer, Peggy Houston and Kathryn Henry. They are working on the budget (from last year's template), the volunteer group for the conference itself, etc.

They are still needing to know more about youth schedule (cost for youth, where they will eat, etc.).

There was a discussion about expected number of attendees and the registration fee. The fee will stay at \$110.00.

Photography: Needs to be arranged. Important to have pictures, especially of awardees. Usually has been done by volunteers.

The Board has said they want more visibility, and the committee is addressing this.

2.

Speaker handlers: Elaine will help with Valerie and Sam will take care of Johanna (and get her bio).

Backup speaker: needed in case something happens to prevent one of the arranged speakers. First choice is Mark Stringer, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice would be Victoria Safford again from White Bear. Sam will take care of this.

**Workshops:** Eric Severson

There will be 21, including one to be added by Virginia Wolf. The workshops fit into three groupings with ease! Thank you, Eric.

**Archives:** Gina Dugan

What would be helpful to us? Peggy mentioned that the newly created position descriptions were helpful to their committee. It would be helpful to develop a more formal timeline for local arrangements in planning the conference.

Gina will report back to us in the summer, after taking the next 6 months to look at the data she has. Some questions for her to look at: How far are people willing to travel? How many people come back to a conference? What areas get the largest attendance?

**Next meeting:** Tentative date is February 4<sup>th</sup>, will confirm after Elaine checks her calendar.

**Youth Report:** Phil Lund

Youth will be mainly at the Church, but come together with adults for dinner and Saturday night worship. Also, hopefully, at banner parade and keynote. Separate registration for youth will go our with conference materials. There is still a need for youth advisors from other churches for chaperones.

Local arrangements committee and Phil will discuss possibility of involving youth in homeless shelter dinner.

Re 2007: UUA staff want to talk with districts about needs for youth as annual conferences, with desire to better integrate programming. This is part of larger strategy in our commitment to raising lifelong UUs. Roland Martinson was suggested as a possible speaker for 2007. He is an expert on youth ministry. The book, Embracing Parents, was also discussed – parents need to be nurtured, and Moral Politics by Lakoff.

Phil will work on confirming one speaker from this discussion and we discuss possible second speakers at the February meeting.

Family time and family activities were discussed. From this came reminder to include materials on local places and events of interest in the registration mailing.

3.

Tables have become more popular – a good way to get out info. and get feedback. Invite folks to have a table, will need to be in brochure information. Talk to Sarah Greene with questions.

**2008:** Topic will be discussed at February meeting.

**Tentative Next Meeting Date: Saturday, February 4, 2006. Minnesota Valley Fellowship, Bloomington, MN. 10:00am-2:00pm with potluck lunch.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Owens-Pike