

Humanists of Minnesota

Board of Directors Meeting and Retreat Minutes

August 5, 2018

Attendees:

Officers: Audrey Kingstrom (President), Harlan Garbell (Vice President), David Guell (Secretary), Nick Hayden (Treasurer), Suzanne Perry, Meline Juarez, Sharon Tornes, Christine Retkwa, Seth Engmann, Ellie Bjorklund.

Not Present: Mark Coffey.

Location: Meline's House.

Minutes

A request was considered from Paul Heffron to match \$150 he was willing to contribute toward the purchase of a typewriter for an inmate he is currently counseling and whom has written for the newsletter. It was decided to ask Paul to write a column in the newsletter making the case for individual members to contribute separately to fund this.

A request from the AHA to distribute Humanist literature in a Minneapolis suburb was considered, as a challenge to the Gideons passing out bibles there. It was decided to move forward with the invitation.

The board discussed ideas and words that will form the input to the coming effort to develop improved messaging for Humanism. Audrey opened the conversation with: "because...it's on us" and "for a better me and a better we." Ideas offered by board members included: because we care, alternative to religion, ethical framework, community, values in action, curiosity, wonder, well-being of all, sustainability, science, reason, evidence-based.

Sept 15: Panel on money in politics; speaker is Vicky Barnes, head of American Promise, focused on repealing Citizens United. Moderated by Meline.

Oct 20: Bill Hart will speak on Humanism on the relationship between atheism, humanism and naturalism.

Nov 17: Panel discussion on Designing the Future, Affordable housing and urban planning. Lisa Barahas from the Met Council will be one speaker.

Dec: Mental health and depression.

January: Legalization of marijuana.

February: Darwin day and genetics.

March: Considering: 1) community issues among BLM, DACA, Hmong. Or 2) something with ACLU.

April: Environmental program maybe.