

UU 9th Grade Trip Steering Committee

7:00 p.m. Thursday, September 28th, 2006

First Universalist Church of Denver

Next Meeting

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 17th, 2006

Jefferson Unitarian Church

Present: Jessy Hennesy, Jenny Bridges, Melinda McGann, Brenda Helms, Mitch Pingel, Betty Pingel, Mike Johnston, Jan Harbert, Shelly Elliot, Carrie, Mia

1. Orientations
 - a. All orientations have been completed
 - b. Suggestion was made by Boulder DRE that we charge \$25 extra and make all 9GT meals vegetarian. After some discussion it was decided to keep meals as they are for this year.
 - c. Mitch has parent emails for every Tripper, and expects to have Tripper emails for those 6 or 7 who failed to write theirs in.
2. Tripper Numbers
 - Currently there are 44 potential Trippers including 29 females and 15 males.
3. Responsible Adults
 - a. Female RAs include Brenda, Gail, Marty, Jenny. Melinda would go if needed.
 - b. Male RAs include Dave, Matt, Mitch, Cliff.
 - c. Chuck Kuscher has applied to be an RA. Is from JUC, no experience with kids listed, but has worked with college-aged students. A reference letter is still needed, along with a letter of permission from his son, Forrest.
 - d. A Fort Collins RA seems necessary for years when 1/3 of the Trippers are from Fort Collins. Sandi is searching for an applicant.
 - e. Other possibilities: Donna Martin's daughter, Lauren Jurgenson (1974 Tripper), Linda Short (Mitch will follow up), Gaia from Colorado Springs (Jenny will follow up)
 - f. Melinda will work on an RA Welcome Letter
4. Finances
 - a. Budget is based on 35 Trippers
 - b. Currently nearly \$3000 in account with \$736.96 in outstanding checks
 - c. Checks have been received from 3 Trippers
 - d. Annual donation letters are to be mailed soon
 - e. *Anne Semlack is concerned that Fort Collins may cut their 9th Grade Trip donation.
 - f. Cheyenne and Fort Collins are discussing a joint fundraiser.
5. Bus
 - a. Last year People's Choice charged about \$6500.

- b. Coach (where Mitch now works) would charge about \$8000, including bus driver's salary (about \$1400), which Mitch would donate back to Trip.
 - c. Mitch investigated our paying per mile, in which case the driver is not paid) but this would be more expensive.

- 6. Classes
 - a. Our first 9GT class (Boulder) immediately follows the Social Action Con (JUC).
 - b. Jenny will work with Emily Sealy to communicate with 9th graders who have not registered for 9GT, and to facilitate transportation to 9GT class.

- 7. Trip
 - a. School Visits
 1. Decided to try to go back to Tiis Nas Bas this year if possible given the success of last year's experience.
 2. will contact Mrs. Elk River, last year's host, to coordinate our visit.
 3. We will, of course, maintain an ongoing relationship with Delphina John, who will continue to be a good resource for future years.
 - b. Hopi
 1. Arrive Saturday, April 14th at noon
 2. Meet Bertrum at about 2:00 p.m. for field trip
 3. Plan for sack lunches and/or dinners to allow for extended educational experience with Bertrum, sunset viewing, relaxed day. Will discuss details at future Steering Committee Meeting.
 4. Wallace and Bertrum could do their program either Saturday or Sunday night.
 5. Visit Hopi High on Monday and stay for early lunch with students in cafeteria.

- 8. Spirituality on 9GT: Is there enough?
 - a. Current Spiritual Pieces
 1. Drumming Circle
 2. Worships
 3. Farmington Closing Worship
 4. First Universalist Good-bye
 5. Recognition Service
 6. Bertrum and Wallace's program
 7. Sunrises/Sunsets
 8. Etc.
 - b. Decided that we would review evaluation to see if it would make sense to add additional wording to better capture the "spirituality piece". (Mitch)

- 9. Minister's Meeting (reported by Reverend Mrs. P.)

- Discussed fundraising, Trip fees, communication with ministers.

10. Trip Promotion

- a. Shelly would like to include 9th Grade Trip information in a summer program for 8th graders at her church.
- b. 8th graders could be invited to the Trip Recognition Service
- c. Could do a curriculum piece on 9th Grade Trip to be done at the end of the 8th grade year.