

Mystic Grove Meeting Minutes

Attending: Mary M, Heather N, Barbara H, Cat R, Paul B, Julia B, Lesley H, Dev I

OPENING

Start - 12:02 P.M. No guests today.

Chalice Lighting by Barbara H

Honoring of the Teachers by Cat R (Cupcakes by Toni D, Pencils from Julia) with a group singing of "Air I Am."

BIGGER WORLD

- Orlando Pagan Pride. Mystic Grove is providing rental space for planning meetings in lieu of table fees for the event itself.
- General Assembly is now on late registration if you plan to attend.
- May 19 is 1U Congregation Meeting. Please plan to attend.

MG GOVERNANCE

Cat R and Heather N. will be typing prior dream boards to share with the group by June.

Officer Positions for Upcoming 2019-2020 Year:

Cat R - Chair

Mary M - IPP

Lesley H - Activities coordinator and Treasurer

Paul B - Historian

Secretary - Vacant at the moment.

VP – Vacant at the moment.

WORSHIP

April 7 Wheel of the Year Sermon

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Additional continual feedback from church members about prior “Wheel of the Year” service even today. It really spoke to a lot of people and many said they better understood what types of pagans there are and what we are doing at solar ritual now that they understand the “Wheel” model better.

Ministers also gave positive feedback also:

“I was glad to be in the sanctuary on Sunday to experience the excellent service by Mystic Grove. It all flowed so well, the artifacts were just right, the participants knew their stuff, and all the motion made it interesting every minute. Everyone I have talked with or overheard thought it was well done and also glad to be there. “ Rev Janet

"I wanted to say again how grateful I am for the fabulous service you and other Mystic Grove folks led a couple weeks ago. I found it deeply moving and Esme was also super engaged! Thank you." Rev. Kiersten

Group agreed having a rehearsal for tight timing and transitions was good and for the pulpit ones we could keep doing those.

Group expressed overall interest in using the “Wheel of the Year” service for future community outreach (other UU congregations, etc.) after Pagan Pride in the fall.

Group expressed interest in creating additional ideas for other “canned” or “traveling” services -- Elements, Ancestors, Pirates like Tom C did in the past, “Why am I UU Pagan?” buffet service and so on.

May 4 Beltane (Just happened yesterday.)

Postpone main Beltane group discussion and feedback until next meeting when it can be fully digested and more members are in attendance.

June 23 Summer Solstice

May 12 at noon will be the date for planning in Room 1. Mary M will lead. Parts will be identified for members to sign up for. Lesley will reserve space.

Folk Ensemble will provide offertory and postlude.

Mary M will provide all chants to Aubrey and Folk Ensemble and post links for Grove members to practice at home.

Sunday, May 5, 2019

“Enhanced Coffee Hour”. Provide elements from “Topsy Turvy” ritual bucket for games and activities. The “elements race” water gun one, the “spin the tarot card” one and the “Toilet paper Lord and Lady” on for fun on the patio.

Aug 3 Wep Ronpet (Kemetic New Year)

Lesley H will lead Egyptian New Year. Needs no additional support at this time.

Moon Circle

Going well and wrapping up. Evaluation forms will be provided to Christi and Michael for the Moon Circle students last class. Dev Inderjeet and Cat will do the evaluation/exit interview for the teachers.

Group consensus of letting the sessions to be suspended for the Fall so we can rest and prepare for other curriculum in Jan 2020.

EDUCATION

R&D Holidays and Holy Days

- Progress on “Pagan Path” brochure shared.
- Also mapped out the line up for 2019-2020 Classes below.

2019-2020 Classes

Cat presents the tentative schedule. (See attached.)

Seasonal:

- Request from Sublime Elm to teach chant class (Circle of Song). Group consensus for one session in the fall with an optional session in spring. Cat to follow up.

Summer 2019 Starts:

- Popcorn Theology – Changed to be 2nd Sunday sessions once a month. Mary M wants literal popcorn as well. Cat will loan air popper.

Fall 2019 Starts:

- Great Courses Comparative Religions DVD class. Lesley H needs some assistants/substitutes in case of illness.
(<https://www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/comparative-religion.html>)

Sunday, May 5, 2019

- Getting started in adult religious education: A practical guide. Cat and Heather will map it out and provide Adult RE teacher training for those wanting to learn about adult RE, new teachers needing training, old teachers needing review, or those who want to train with us and take it back to their home groups. Could use another lead.

Spring 2020 (January) Starts

- Becoming Women of Wisdom. (<https://www.cronecurriculum.net/table-of-contents/>)

Adapted for all genders and ages. Group needs decision re: open vs. closed door. Overall desire for closed sessions to provide comfort for private/personal stories/etc. Mary M and Cat R expressed interest in leading the class. Could use another lead.

Group approval for the overall mapping out of educational sessions/events for the forthcoming year. We plan to use the May 26 Coffee Hour party to do student interest / teacher recruitment.

R&D Ritual Book

Good discussions during meetings but little material is being provided during the meetings. Possible need for a separate meeting/method for getting it (scanning party, one-on-one visits, etc.). One perceived drawback in providing prior rituals is the concern of material being modified or changed.

Pagan Voices Book Group

Break in May for congregational meeting. Rev. Kristen will be present in June session. Last session in July. Overall group approval and feedback of the sessions/discussions. We'd like to keep exploring the other "Voices" texts.

May 26 Congregational Survey

Session needed to digest survey data in June. Possibly led by Mary M and Cat R. so it can be a combo of meeting to process the ritual book needs and the survey needs.

FELLOWSHIP

Craft Circle - May 17 Element banners

Sewing machines provided by Barbara H, Mary M, Cat R.

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Group agrees the felt icons for water is a drop and fire is a flame. Cat R will finish water based icon as a model. Goal for session is to get Blue and Red done and sort out the shapes for yellow and green. Some drawing on the board and discussion of icons.

- Air = Feather with “swoopies”.
- Earth = tree branch/ with leaf coming off it
- Spirit : Flaming Chalice, Flaming cauldron, Tree of Life, Spiral all suggested. (Group agrees if pressed for time, this one can be later in the year. We need the main 4 done for Summer Solstice.)

Cat R will shop for felt for experiments with element shapes.

Group will search for additional vector clip art images as “homework” to bring to the craft circle. Shape must fit full page on 8.5 x 11 paper. (See attached Water and Flame for example.)

Upcoming Crafts

- June craft circle is dragon eggs
- July craft circle is Paper Journal Buffet that was canceled due to severe weather.
- August craft circle will be a jewelry themed.
- Sept will be “Chalica Kits”

Field Trips

Overall consensus for postponing Cassadaga trip to the fall so the Gillespie Rock Museum will be open again and we can do that too.

Other “fun ideas”: Jetty Park (sunset / full moonrise at the beach), Lesley H will check for possible full moon rising dates. Going to Lego Land.

ROOM HEALTH

Past interest (Cat R, Chip D, Toni D) for improved flooring and furniture “like in the Assembly room.” Group still interested. Cat R will investigate cost of stacking chairs and wheeled tables for Room 1. Cat R has asked for the rug to be removed.

Sunday, May 5, 2019

DIGITAL HEALTH

Heather H will assist Cat R in preparing the “Adopt a Job Board” (E-Blast, UUUS Newsletter, etc.) for August membership month.

OUTREACH

- Group interest in a future UUUS service.
- Crystal Blessings, etc. (Lesley H will investigate interest with gem and mineral group).
- Pagans in the Park (Cat R will find out next date)
- Chalica Kits for greater congregation. (Lesley H) Group liked this a lot, scheduled to be a craft circle.

SERVICE AUCTION WINNER

- Mary M, Chip D, Toni D, Dev Inderjeet will coordinate for home blessing. Mary M will captain with an intro letter provided by Cat R.
- Cat R will liaison with Charlotte for prior auction (2008) winning for a written crowning ceremony and invite her to attend the “Wisdom” Moon Circle in Jan 2020.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spring Book Sale at Downtown library. (May 17 – 19)

<https://www.facebook.com/events/673114016438211/>

“The MG Libras” thinking about joint birthday party again.

CLOSING

Process Observer – good energy, everyone got to talk and be heard.

Closing reading by Dev Inderjeet.

Lunch at Too Jays for those wanting fellowship after the meeting.

End - 1:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul B.