

Meeting Minutes

United Nations Association of Southwestern Connecticut and Westport UN (and International Visitors) Committees

6:30 to 8pm on Tuesday August 6, 2019 in Room 210 of Westport Library

Attendees: Alex Anvari, Barbara Jay, Arline Gertzoff, Andrea Dostal, Marge Niewenhuis, Derick DeMarche, Melinda McMillen, Bernie Neiwenhuis, Luzma Montano, Emerson Anvari, Dave Lowrie (Recording secretary)

AGENDA (Note meeting was re-scheduled from 8/7/19)

A. September 12 Membership event

Marge summarized proposal for the committee to host a "meet-and-greet" Ned Dimes Pavilion at Compo Beach that promotes membership, solicits program ideas and celebrates past events while building friendship. Some invitations must be snail mailed. Melinda offered to work on invitations and RSVPs. Dave will draft copy for flyer and invitation. Barbara will buy prepared foods. Marge and Bernie will investigate discount or donated beverages (wine, beer, water, seltzer.) A presentation of pictures and images will be created. UN affiliated groups will be allowed to post brochures etc (i.e. UNICEF.) Derick, Marge and Luzma will help source.

B. Review the Events Committee document

October 24th is United Nations Day. Potential flag raising coordinators: Dave-Fairfield, Franco-Stamford, Eva/Sydney-Greenwich. Weston and Westport tbd.

Sunday November 3: Barbara Joy asked UNASWCT to consider cosponsoring a seminar hosted by her Congregation of Humanistic Judaism. "FLOOD OF IDEAS at Sacred Heart University with include Karim Ahmed author of Noah's Flood, adjunct Professor at UConn and a prominent member of the IREJN speaker list. Mr Ahmed has corresponded with Barbara on topics of population migration and displacement with regard to climate change and other factors. UNASWCT volunteers are willing to man a table if allowed to.

Thursday November 28: Thanksgiving Hospitality Day

Joan and Barbara will lead host recruitment effort.

C. Old Business

An initial conversation at the June committee meeting led Joan Hass and Arline Gertzoff to learn about CEDAW Treaty (Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination of Women) which some cities have endorsed with legislation. CEDAW, signed by President Carter, has never been ratified the US Senate. Arline suggested the Connecticut Commission on Women, Children and Elderly may be a good partner for chapter programs.

D. Closing

Derick DeMarche made a motion to approve June 17 meeting minutes, and Arline Gertzoff seconded.

Derick Demarche made a motion to approve July meeting minutes and Barbara Joy seconded.

Both motions passed unanimously.

The September committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday September 4, 6:30 pm at Westport Library, room 210.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Lowrie 8/13/19 with edits 9/4/19