

***Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, Dubuque Chapter
August monthly meeting, 8-13-17, 3-4:30p
St. John Lutheran Church***

Convener: David Speckhard, St. John ELCA

Recorder: Sharon Speckhard, St. John ELCA

Other Attendees: Sue Hattel - St. Luke UMC, Mary Purdy - St. Luke UMC, Craig Reber - UUFD, Linda and Tom Stovall - Westminster Pres., Paul Uzel - Pres. pastor, Jane Worm - First UCC

Presenter: Cori Burbach, City of Dubuque

1. David welcomed us to St. John, ELCA.
2. We introduced ourselves with our congregations and passed around the attendance sheet. Sharon agreed to record.
3. Moved, Seconded, Concurred (M-S-C) to move Item 10 (the six-month assessment of chapter progress) to the end of the agenda and then approved the amended agenda.
4. M-S-C to approve the June and July minutes. M-S-C to not make multiple paper copies of minutes in the future. Attendees are encouraged to review the minutes online before each meeting or bring a laptop to view during the meeting.
5. Cori Burbach presented on Iowa's Good Neighbor program, a plan to reduce pesticide exposure for children, pets, and others at risk. The goal is to enroll organizations with large green spaces in the program: school districts, city/county parks, child-care centers, institutions (including churches), parents. Ten of the city's 42 parks are now pesticide-free; they no longer spray city lawns; they are still spraying sidewalks at this point but are trying non-pesticide treatments. The city is hoping to get churches on board with the program and encourage them and individuals to sign the online pledge (goodneighborioda.org) by mid-September; they have yard signs and door hangers available to show your church or personal lawn is pesticide-free.
6. The group was frustrated that we still have no bags to distribute. M-S-C to print the bag design with the larger logo in time to distribute at the next meeting, September 10th.
7. Jane Worm reported that our booth at the Summer Sustainability Fair July 29 went well. She asked where the remaining materials would be stored. The Stovalls took the box and posters home for now, but Sharon suggested that we find a church with regular office hours to store the materials, so anyone from the group can use them when needed.
8. Attendance at the September 24th sustainability talk by Martin Schramm at the Sisters of the Presentation at 1pm was encouraged. Sue asked for a less-wordy 8 ½ x 11 poster than the one on the website to use at churches; Paul will create. Members were asked to have their congregations send a donation to Barb Ressler for the \$125 congregational portion of the speaker's fee.

9. Paul reported he hadn't made much progress on compiling places to take difficult-to-recycle materials as no one sent him info, but Cori had noted this item on the agenda and offered to help him.
10. [moved to end of meeting]
11. Congregation Updates: First Cong. - nothing new, St. Luke's - front-yard, parsonage, portico, and parking lot gardens are about ready to harvest and workers tending the gardens have good conversations with passersby, Westminster's pastor just finished a five-week Adult Ed series on green issues based on the book A Short History of Progress by Ronald Wright, the "Bag It" video discussion will be two weeks in September, and they have harvested more than 660 pounds of produce so far this year, much more than last, Unitarian-Universalists - a human-powered mower was donated to the congregation and Craig pulls weeds by hand, so they are already pesticide-free, St. John ELCA - David now has low-maintenance hostas and deep mulch around much of the church grounds to reduce the need to weed.
12. Craig offered to host at UUFD next month, so we are good until November. Sharon recommended we have a hosting sign-up at the annual meeting in February, since there are enough churches now to cover the year.

Save the Date: annual meeting is scheduled for 2-18-18, 2-4pm, at the Sisters of the Presentation; Sarah will lead The Good Life Redefined training. Westminster is collecting regular or light tampons and pads for a Red Basket packing event August 26th, 9-11am; please donate or come help.

10. The six-month assessment was completed by those able to stay after 4:30 (See separate document.).