



The Interfaith Alliance
LONG ISLAND CHAPTER
<http://www.interfaithalliance-li.org>

Minutes – Meeting of 1/14/2009

Attendance: Marty Melkonian, Chair; Hank Around; Ronnie Around; Paul Auerbach; Norma Cohen; Dick Goodman; Ruth Reeves; Dolores Tibbets; Rich Tibbets; John Tilton.

Marty Melkonian called the meeting to order at 7:45pm.

Minutes: After a brief discussion, the minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Dolores reported that our current balance is \$1,467.11. The income included (1) a \$500 donation from the Islamic Center of Long Island plus (2) \$75 in member dues. Expenses included (1) \$500 to the Greater Patchogue Foundation, which was collecting funds to assist the family of Marcelo Lucero, who was killed in a hate crime in November, and (2) \$10 in banking fees.

Stop the Hate: Marty said that a “Stop the Hate event was being planned for the last Saturday in January. We agreed to co-sponsor this event as well as actively participate. *(Editor's Note: This event was subsequently cancelled and will be rescheduled. Further info will be provided as plans are made.)*

Clergy Luncheon: Norma will speak with UUCSR to reserve a date for our annual Clergy Luncheon at the Veatch House. We now need to form a committee to plan for this event. Dick Goodman suggested that we ask the Long Island Council of Churches to include an announcement about this luncheon in their email newsletter. *(Editor's Note: Norma subsequently reported that she has reserved Veatch House at UUCSR on May 21st for the Luncheon.)*

Membership Committee: Paul, Norma and Rich will meet to discuss ways to increase membership in TIA-LI. We are especially interested in increasing membership among the clergy.

TIA-LI Banner: Members voted to approve a new banner for TIA-LI. Rich will follow up with TIA-National to obtain computer files containing the TIA logo.

State of Belief: Norma reported that UUCSR is still processing requests for grants through the “large grants panel.” She continues to advocate for a grant to support TIA's *State of Belief* radio program.

TIA Website: Rich reported that Mark Lukens' blog site provides excellent commentaries on: (1) the fighting in Gaza, (2) the gay marriage debate, and (3) church-state relations. It's accessible through the TIA website at www.interfaithalliance-li.org. To view Mark's blog, click on "*Rev. Lukens BLOG*" near the top of the left column of the TIA homepage.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Tibbets

NEXT INTERFAITH ALLIANCE MEETING

The next TIA meeting will be
Thursday, February 26th at 2:30 pm
at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock (UUCSR)
48 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset.
Call (516) 627-6560 for directions to UUCSR, or visit the website www.uucsr.org