

NAIC General Meeting
September 9, 2020 - 12:00 p.m. via Zoom
Meeting Agenda with notes by Ken

In attendance: John Rowntree (Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd), Rev. Ken McGarry (First Church of Nashua, clergy; Family Promise, board member), Rev. Sally Newhall (Nashua Presbyterian Church, clergy), Rabbi Jon Spira-Savett (Temple Beth Abraham, clergy), Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight (Pelham Congregational Church, clergy), Maggie Dechene (Main Street United Methodist Church), Nancy Meyer (Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd), Doug Howard (Front Door Agency), Rev. Greg Baker (Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, clergy), Meta Vornehm (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Nashua Stake), Joan Goeckel, Rev. Tom Woodward, Rev. Mike Greene (Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, clergy), Bobbie Knickerbocker (Nashua Presbyterian Church), Aron DiBacco (Granite State Organizing Project), Rev. Jason Wells (New Hampshire Council of Churches), Mike Apfelberg (United Way of Greater Nashua), Awilda Muniz (University of New Hampshire Co-op Extension), Nonny Egbuonu (Main Street United Methodist Church; Thank You Project, board member), Liz Fitzgerald (United Way of Greater Nashua), Meg Hamm (Church of Christ, Scientist, Nashua), Moe Pare, Kristy Besada (Front Door Agency), Rev. Kelly Turney (Main Street United Methodist Church, clergy)

12:00 Intros — Jon calling on people individually at 12 p.m.

12:10 Blessing offered by Jon Spira-Savett

12:11 Breakout group question presented by Mike Greene:

What specific teachings or wisdom from your faith have guided you through the unique challenges of living during this pandemic?

Let's tell each other about the teaching themselves and something about the sources of them (what is that text, who is that teacher, what is that concept etc)

12:12-12:27 Zoom breakout groups of 3

12:30 Frame the next two pieces:

1. What are some things happening in the wider community related to COVID-19 response that we all ought to know about?

2. What are ways that we as a group can help each other, help our organizations, help our collective group members in these times as the NAIC network?

12:30-12:40

Mike Apfelberg — LEARN UNITED

- Coalition of partners serving youth in Greater Nashua is recruiting hundreds of volunteer adults who can mentor, tutor, and support young people who are needing assistance in distance learning.
- Also a school supply pantry is in place at UW.
- UW has purchased 100 hotspots for internet access for young people who do not have access at home.
- Seeking locations where mentoring/tutoring can take place, need wifi connection.

- Meg Hamm: suggests Mike reach out to Masonic Lodge to see if they are interested in participating in this program.

Doug Howard — housing/rent/utilities assistance

- Recently took position at Front Door formerly held by Kristy Besada
- Provide services for people living in several Hillsborough County towns
- Loans for rent deposits
- Pay off debts to enable families to stay current on rent payments
- Rapid rehousing for homeless families, providing up to one year of rental assistance
- Coordinates with other service organizations and government welfare offices to help families with needs

12:40-12:55 (started at 12:47) Info and brainstorming about what NAIC is and can be doing

Sally talk about weekly religious leadership support group and FB group:

- Training sessions were offered to help congregations utilize Zoom
- weekly support group for clergy
- Facebook page provides ideas and other resources for faith communities and ongoing conversation

Jon talk about housing group:

Bi-weekly reflection group for religious and organization leaders around issues of justice related to affordable housing. New participants are welcome to join.

Jon lead brainstorming about interests group members may have in meeting/collaborating, seeing if we can find a point person on each

Jon: What can we do for each other?

Meg Hamm: How are congregations helping elders stay connected using video conferencing software?

- Sally: Deacons are phone calling members
- Jon: Instructional videos to help people utilize technology
- Liz: City's master plan focused on resilience and community equity, needing faith community leaders providing input related to housing
- Jon: Executive Board will follow up on Meg's question and will consider ways that NAIC can provide and/or organize support in this area.

12:55-1:10 Updates/announcements

Farewell to Ken - Starting new role in Stoneham, MA on Sept. 21, requested for someone to take on secretary position. (no immediate response)

Treasurer report

Becky Green — CROP Walk - Becky was unable to attend meeting. Jon asked people to join in walking with appropriate distance at this year's event. Bobbie encouraged walkers and organizations to go online to pledge or make donations at <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/nashuanh>.

Thanksgiving service - Allison Palm is unable to lead this year. Jon requested for another NAIC member to provide leadership of this service. (no immediate response)

open announcements by raising hands

- Liz: UW is offering online program for kindergarteners in Greater Nashua region. Designed for low-income families, but others may apply. Family will receive computer, wifi access,

parental tech training for duration of program (school year). Flyers are available. Let her know how many wanted and in what language: <https://conta.cc/32CQ0Do>

- Jason: NHCOC is offering non-partisan educational events about voting: Sept. 15 and Oct. 6 sessions via Zoom. Encouraged congregations to share information about events to congregations: <https://nhchurches.org/vote2020/>
- Nonny: Multicultural Festival will not be done in person this year. Instead, a multicultural cookbook is being formed: <https://welcomingnh.org/creating-a-cookbook/>

1:15 Closing and thank yous