

Attendance: Joanne Perez, Mick Grzonka, John Rowntree, Matt Hodgkiss, Pam Deres, Pam Wellman, Tom Woodward, Jon Spira-Savett, Mike Apfelberg, Allison Palm, Cindi Owing, Jocelyn Sharp-Henning, Christa Tsechrintzis, Meg Hamm, Donna Mead, Meta Vornehm, Michael Reinke, Cheryl Massie (?), Nonny Egbuonu

Opening with prayer - John Rowntree

Introductions

Breakout groups: Think about a value that is one of your core values. Think about a story of that value for you—how did it get to you? Think about an issue that's top of mind for you. Is there a connection between that value and that issue? What is that connection?

Jon Spira-Savett and Mike Apfelberg led reflection on how we decide to give of our time, energy and resources.

Jon's story: founded a group for Jewish youth organized around philanthropy. He's also connected with a group that invests Jewish funds toward development of low income communities. No Small Change: Jewish women and Jewish teens generated circles of giving in New York. He introduced a book (Inspired Philanthropy by Tracy Gary).

Mike: He and his wife once owned a small business in Nashua and struggled to find ways to give back to the community. How do you make sure you're putting food on the table and run your business and give back. They connected through the Soup Kitchen. When the Apfelbergs sold their business, Deb Novotny suggested that he apply to be a resource development director at a local non-profit director. This is how he got started.

Slides:

Choosing a partner...

- Mission alignment

- Organizational effectiveness

- Gap in service

- Administrative burden

Types of giving...

- Time and energy - the beginning of the continuum

  - One offs vs. ongoing volunteering

- Monetary/financial

  - Restricted vs. unrestricted

  - Cash, grants, sponsorships, team based, assets, legacy and planned

  - One time vs. periodic

  - Individual, workplace, crowdfunding

Jon: ideas taken from inspiredphilanthropy.com (ask for slide presentation)

How Americans give:

- About 2% of GDP was given philanthropically by foundations, corporations and individuals
- About 1.5% of personal income was given charitably by individuals

Highest percent of charitable giving directed to

- 27% Religion
- 14% Education
- 13% Human services

Methods:

- Fundraising/selling items to raise money 36%
- Food Collection/distribution 24%
- Collecting/making/distributing clothing 27%
- Mentoring youth 26%

How do you connect to your values in a way that makes you a more sustained, inspired giver?  
The book has activities to help you discern.

Writing out a mission statement of your giving is important. (Personal and institutional)

Inventory your current giving and your current assumptions and choices. Some of these notions are implicit/unarticulated until you write the statement.

Surfacing your starting point:

For example:

- Would you choose to give to support a food pantry/soup kitchen or a living wage organizing group?
- Would you choose to give to people in this community or in developing countries?
- Increasing sustainable energy use or investing in neighborhoods most affected by toxins and pollution?
- Food, shelter, and medicine or education?

Articulating values and their story: Articulating issues and their connection to your values (exercises, research, interviews, writing) This is like the exercise with which we opened.

Making a "giving mission statement": What things do I/we need to get more information about or would like to think about more? What organizations are I/we aware of and whom would we like to know more about?

Mike: A few other points: for example: a life insurance policy paid for over time could be used to pay a much larger amount to a non-profit.

Voluntarism also counts.

Do your research on the organizations to which you are giving. Guidestar and Charity Navigator sites will rate different non-profit organizations and rate them according to fiscal transparency and accountability.

Conversation: Comments on the inequities of the tax code. Questions about faith communities—is this giving to ourselves and not philanthropy? What does this mean about church missional giving?

One item of business: Acquiring a Meeting Owl so that we can travel to various church bodies over time. An Owl is available in Boston for \$300, proposing it's in good working order. The council could buy it for \$300 or Temple Beth Abraham will split the cost and ownership.

Mick Grzonka moved that the NAIC purchase the Owl outright, Allison Palm seconded: all in favor no opposed. So the NAIC will purchase the Meeting Owl.

Christa: Habitat for Humanity started its new build. Information sessions have been held and the site will be on 14 Granite St. It's a stop on the Nor'Easter. Also, relaunching critical home repair program. New manager is starting for that program and will start taking applications this month.

Nonny: position on Cultural Connections Committee for the City of Nashua. She has been unable to be sworn in. She can still attend and represent the council, but she will not have a vote until she is able to appear to be sworn in.

Nonny: Thank you project—this represents the ideals of our discussion today. Please donate.

Mike A: 1st Thursday, zoom only, Youth Homelessness subcommittee will continue to meet monthly. New members are needed and can be included by contacting Mike.

Meta: United Way community baby shower is coming in April. Bibs and burpcloths will be made by Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They are opening this activity to the community and will send announcements. Free genealogical resources are available through the church, as well.

Pam Wellman: Family Promise has been a resource to the community. Please feel free to send folks in need to Joanne for community resources.

Pam Deres: 460 Amherst St. will host a Green Clean workshop Feb 4 at 10 am (Saturday morning) and a sock drive on Feb. 18, 19, 25, 26 to be distributed to Family Promise and other organizations.

Meeting adjourned.