

Spirituality Con 3-week Meeting Minutes

Agenda:

Job Jot Check-ins

Fall Con Date

Mandatory Reporting Policy

Web cast

Training Time

Job Jots:

- Touchgroup Task force will push their planning until after the Chaplain training
- Touchgoup Torah: sent by Mia to Amelia
- Website Docs: Mia was updating
- Amelia, Ryan, Alexa and Tori will make a: "What council is" video at the next meeting
- Dylan and J-song to make council recaps and post them on the GRUUST channel on YouTube
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Fall Con Date:

Fall Con was scheduled for the 19th to 21st of October, but Jason told Council there is a COA retreat that weekend and the weekend immediately before it. As youth in COA should be able to go to cons, Council discussed rescheduling Fall Con. The only feasible date is 26th to 28th, but that is the weekend of an inter-congregational Haunted House which involves an overbearing number of YRUUsers. Council determined that scheduling conflicts are inevitable and since the number of kids in YRUU and COA are few, the date of the Con will not be changed.

Mandatory Reporting Guidelines:

In the course of reporting the CACs at Elections Con, we realized our Mandatory Reporting policy is not clearly defined anywhere in our bylaws. Council determined this is an unsafe condition and set out to delineate the policy. Questions arose as to whether we should formalize what we have already been doing or reassess the situation and compile an entirely new policy. Council decided to adopt a slightly edited version from the Chaplain Handbook, but it was brought to our attention that "Mandatory reporting" is a strong, official phrase and that if we want to be able to use our discretion, we shouldn't use that phrase. With those semantics set aside, the question that continued to pop up was to whom we would be reporting. Suggestions included the Head Adult, Jeanylease, the individual's parent(s) and the individual's minister. There was a lengthy discussion about the interests of YRUU versus the interests of the Board and where they may at some times conflict. At the end of our discussion, we determined that both Council and the PCD Board aim to keep YRUU a safe and supportive community. Through this, Council decided that Jeanylease is the best person to report to. With some research, Council determined the best way to capture her position in words was the "District Executive" or the "Director of Faith Development." Thus, Council finally consented to add a section 9 to Article 6 of the PCD YRUU bylaws reading: "Rule infractions will be reported to the District Executive or the director of faith development in compliance with the PCD Safety Policy and applicable state laws. Reports will anonymously detail the rule infraction and the action taken to resolve the issue."

WebCast Council Meetings:

It was suggested by a council member that we begin a live internet broadcasting of all council meetings to increase Council transparency and provide the experience of a Council meeting to anyone interested without the ability to actually get to them. The idea proposed using

a camera and a microphone to broadcast meetings as they are happening, but not save them for future watching. This would allow anyone on the PCD YRUU website to watch the meeting. Several members of Council found this intrusive and expressed they would feel uncomfortable unless there was a log-in system to regulate who could watch it. Other concerns were expressed about times Council gets off topic, discussing things about our personal lives that we would not want publicly broadcasted. Overall, it seemed as if there were too many what if situations that could provide consequences. Council members began to wonder if this was an actual problem that needed solving or if there are specific people who want easier access to Council meetings. It was stated that there are members of the Con community who don't understand Council's decisions, and they don't see the transparency which we are supposed to exhibit. On the other hand, it is true that Council possesses a secretary who keeps the important, relevant information compiled and open to the public, while still protecting our personal information. It is true however, that a broadcast would give community members a chance to ask questions which is much more interactive than reading notes. Several ideas were proposed including Council Skyping in any individual who really wanted to be a part of the meeting and telling con attendees that they can come to Council meetings and posting our agendas, dates and locations online. It was even mentioned that making a facebook event inviting people to come to Council meetings would achieve true transparency. Council determined that while we may have a transparency issue, a Broadcast is not the way to amend it because it would make much of Council uncomfortable which violates our culture of consent.

Council Accessibility:

After deciding against that idea, Council determined there must be another way to solve our transparency problem. It was suggested that we use our Conferee email list to send out the minutes, but we determined that would irritate a lot of people. Besides, the minutes are already available online to anyone who wants to read them. Next, the idea was mentioned of making a staged informational video about Council to post on YouTube. This idea really took off and it was determined that at our next meeting we will film one of these videos which emphasizes that Council meetings are business-centered and only people who are interested in the function of Council should come to meetings. Then, it was suggested that we could film council, edit out the irrelevant content and post a 10 minute or so recap on the GRUUST YouTube channel, and Council fully supported this measure. The next suggestion was that we more actively use the PCD YRUU Facebook page to distribute information through the community, including dates and locations of Council meetings. It was decided that at orientation, the deans will tell the attendees about the facebook page.