**Sonoma Valley Interfaith Ministerial Association**

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

First Congregational Church of Sonoma

**Present:** Larry Frakes, Steve Finley, Manette Fairmont, Dawn and Stacie standing in for Rich, Curran Reichert, Peadar Dalton, Donna Thomas, Nick Dalton.

**Guests:** Kathy King-Sonoma Overnight Support

**Welcome and Call to Order -** Steve Finley

1. **Opening Reflection/Devotion** - A moment of silence to remember David McCracken and everyone shared a few words of remembrance.
2. **Checking In With Non Profits** -
* F.I.S.H. - Steve passed out their recent newsletter.
* City Council - Peadar passed out a handout listing members and committees as well as meeting times/days, see the website for more info. **[www.sonomacity.org](http://www.sonomacity.org)**
* SVUSD/Sonoma Valley Community Center - follow the newspaper article to see recent situation with new superintendent. The high school is searching for a new Principal.
* S.O.S - Kathy King discussed the continuing need for funds now that the county is no longer providing any funding (which had previously been $41,000). The city’s only shelter would like to remain under local control and not the County initiative proposed which would allow residents to continue active drug use which may jeopardize other residents and creates a liability risk. In opposing some of the guidelines such as this the shelter has lost all funding. The winter shelter did comply with the guidelines, however, the county “ran” out of money by this point. The winter shelter supported 44 people and had 1000 bed nights provided at the Sonoma Alliance Church. The city of Sonoma has stepped in and provided $20,000 and they have received some other donations but they are still in need of $14,000 and looking to fill the gap with additional donations. **If your church community can help with donations of $400 or more, please call Kathy at 707-939-6777**. They are always in need of volunteers for food service as well. S.O.S. provides shelter, food, and day service which has increased 32% recently. 85% of all day service recipients are Sonoma Valley residents. On June 5th Kathy and other S.O.S leaders will be going to the county board of supervisors meeting to ask for gap money. On a side note, the county is wanting to spend $250,000 to do a study on Sonoma Valley’s need for shelter, unfortunately that money comes from a different fund than one that gives funding to the shelter.
1. **Friday’s IT article** - what do we want to do? They say a survey which resulted in a small number of readers was cause for stopping the article. Matt was going to write up a draft letter. Steve to follow up. We should call the Sun and ask if they would like to pick up the article. We may also look into the possibility of the IT given us a once a month article instead of weekly.
2. **Public Forum Gathering** - Everyone at today’s meeting was in agreement with the idea of celebrating our youth and their efforts in social justice. Youth in the community are doing some good things with senior projects and volunteer work that we should highlight. We would be looking at the end of July or August 5th before school/college starts up. It is also a suggestion to combine the celebration of David McCracken with this event offering music and remembrance followed by youth presentations as David would have fully supported these kid’s efforts.
3. **Good News/Welfare** - Curran introduced Sustainable Sonoma which looks at what it means to be a sustainable community. There will be community listening circles over the next 18 months. They have asked for a faith voice and the hope is to rotate our members at the meeting which are every 6 weeks. Curran will do it for a while and then hopefully others will jump in. Curran will discuss this again at the next meeting.
4. **Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 23rd, 12:15pm sharp**. Please send a representative if you are unable to attend.
5. **Meeting Adjourned - 1:25pm**