

JUNTOS Adult Meeting
NNMC, AD 101, 8:30-10:30 AM
September 20, 2007

Minutes - Draft

Attendees: Marcia Brenden, Wayne Torpy, Maurice de Segovia, Marcos Vigil, Lori Heimdahl Gibson, Robert Gibson, Valerie Carpenter, Ben Sandoval, Joe Maestas, Jim Anderson, Nathana Bird, Donna Schroeder, David Cockerham, and **Min Park, Facilitator**

- After the welcome and introductions, Robert Gibson made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 10th adult meeting, and Wayne Torpy seconded the motion. All agreed. Youth minutes from their July 31st meeting were included in the packet, along with youth summit and mural meeting notes from meetings on August 11th.
- Announcements (mostly focused on the Johanna Eager workshop on September 30th) included the following:
 1. Lori told about “getting the word out” to as many people and organizations as possible in the last couple of weeks. This included EVHS (Maurice and Nathana), LAHS Natural Helpers, Key Club, and LAYL, UNM-LA, NNMC, McCurdy HS, JJAB members and connections, and several teachers who may give extra credit in classes for attending the workshop and/or getting involved with JUNTOS, Teen Center/ Hands Across Cultures, Teen Courts in each community, ENLACE/GEAR-UP, ads in both newspapers, KRSN radio interview with Johanna Eager. Several people from both communities participated in a phone conference with Johanna Eager on September 18th in order to clarify the goals and process for the workshop. Close to 40 people have sent an RSVP to date. The goal is to have 100-120 attend. RSVP deadline is Tuesday, September 25th.
 2. JUNTOS received funding from NNM United Way: \$5,000 a year for three years! This is in addition to the \$5,000 already received from LA JJAB, and \$500 from NNMC. More is expected from other sources in the near future. Lori had a great JUNTOS banner made with the logos from the organizations mentioned above.
 3. The **next youth JUNTOS meeting is on Saturday, Sept, 29th, 2-4 PM at UNM-LA**. Johanna Eager will be there to prepare youth to help facilitate the small groups during the workshop on Sunday.
- Our guest and new JUNTOS participant was Valerie Carpenter from Creativity for Peace. Valerie is an art therapist and facilitator of the “compassionate dialogue” group sessions with teenage girls from Israel and Palestine. These girls travel to NM to stay at a camp near Glorietta for three weeks during the summer; sleeping, eating, working, and playing together. Typically, during the first few days, they are polite and cordial to each other. The next week is very intense as they tell their stories and histories during the dialogue sessions in the mornings, confronting the “other side.” This time is raw, angry, even full of rage, and the girls separate themselves until there is a breakthrough. The breakthrough comes as the girls follow strict rules in the dialogue sessions (creating a sacred space) and learn to see their “enemies” as human beings who experience the same feelings and suffering as they do.

A major shift takes place and the girls become empowered in their dream for peace. They bond with each other and become committed to expanding peace when they return home. The girls continue to meet periodically during the year to continue to nurture the seeds of peace that they have planted within themselves.

There was discussion about the situation in Israel and questions for Val. Val said that different peace camps use different models, but she feels that the intense, painful part is necessary. The girls spent the afternoons doing many different art projects (art therapy), which enhances the bonding with each other and their vision for peace. She admitted that not all who attend come predisposed towards success.

- The vision and mission statements discussion was brief as Johanna Eager suggested that we wait until after the workshop to develop them. She said that we may clarify ideas and discover wording during the workshop that will help us focus our mission. Min suggested the following: “Valley and Hill; two communities, one idealism.”
- The majority of the meeting was devoted to discussing the organizational framework for JUNTOS for the next years - how often to meet, how to organize the committees, who will do what, combining adult and youth meetings, etc.? We discussed sustainability, process, human resources and funding. We agreed that JUNTOS

should be youth focused, youth driven, with shared administrative duties between the two communities. Some of the main highlights from the discussion include:

1. Lori described the process of LA JJAB “giving birth” to JUNTOS, and the importance of the initiative being shared equally by the Valley and the Hill. It now has grown enough that she can no longer effectively handle the administrative duties without help, especially working out of her home.
 2. LA JJAB now has 501c3 status and receives part of its funding from LA County.
 3. Min told of a recent meeting with JJAB folks, Alan Kirk and Sharon Stover, and Min, Lori, and Linda Daly and Diana Martinez from the YMCA. The Y has expanded its area of service to include the Valley and would be a logical choice to support a JUNTOS staff person.
 4. Ben is the new director of the Youth Teen and Tech Center (run by the YMCA) in Española and supports the Center getting more involved with JUNTOS. Meetings could be held there. The space allows for flexibility.
 5. Maurice suggested that we pay stipends to some youth for working on JUNTOS.
 6. Joe may be able to channel city funds through the Teen Center.
 7. Jim said that LAPS gets invoices from JJAB for services to avoid anti-donation laws.
 8. David said that the JJAB in Española is active and aware of JUNTOS. Jack Ortega came to our first meeting.
 9. Nathana thinks that JUNTOS is more educationally based.
 10. The Teen Center’s focus is on technology, intervention, and education.
 11. There was consensus around the concept of changing the organizational structure to spread the work burden. We will have an advisory committee with representatives from various organizations from the two communities. We need straw man proposals. Keeping a balance of involvement between the communities is essential. We decided that the youth need to meet separately to have their VOICE.
 12. In order to get input from a wide spectrum, we will continue to have members-at-large meetings quarterly. **The next adult JUNTOS meeting will be on Tuesday, December 11th from 8:30-10:30 AM at UNM-LA.** Tuesdays and Thursdays seemed to be the best days. (Lori will contact Cedric.)
 13. Youth meetings will continue to meet monthly alternating between the high schools. **The next month’s youth JUNTOS meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 24th at 12:40 PM during lunch at LAHS.** The Española youth get out of school early that day for an in-service. David will arrange for transportation to LA and back.
 14. Future youth meetings could take place for breakfast when LA has late starts. Video-conferencing is also possible. Our superintendents and the Y will work on transportation for future youth meetings.
- Upcoming student activity – A joint dance at Central Avenue Grill on January 26th in Los Alamos after a basketball game. Lori’s LAYL team, the Conquistadors, is working on possibly having Española folks up for a dinner before the game either as a tailgate party or at Trinity on the Hill Church. More information to come.

Thank you to Maurice de Segovia and NNMC for hosting the meeting and providing refreshments.

We need more people to take a leadership role with the committees below. Please contact Lori if you would like your name to be added (or deleted) from the lists. Thank you.

Committees (so far):

Advisory – Nathana Bird, Janelle Vigil-Maestas, Maurice de Segovia, Lori Heimdahl Gibson. . . .

Funding – Robert Gibson (chair), Ron Martinez, Joe Maestas, Wayne Torpy, Jim Anderson, David Cockerham

Educational Leadership – Marcia Brenden (chair), Cedric Page, Sandra Roney, Frank Orona, Erwin Rivera

Youth Summit – Nathana Bird and Maurice de Segovia (co-chairs), Sharon Stover, Min Park. . . .

Murals – Marcos Vigil (co-chair), Nathana Bird, Andrew Herrera, Maria Tapia, Gillian Sutton. . . .

Joint Dances – Meegan Chute, Susan Mack (chaperone). . . .

Help as Can – Paul Romero, Erwin Rivera, Michelle Hall, Susan Mack (baked goods)

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(Thank you to Robert Gibson for taking good notes.)