

Eastern Regional Holding Circle Minutes 6/18/20

Present: Dave, Sheena, Dominic, Angela, Gino, Cathy, Luigi.

1. Council updates – Dave

16-17 hours of Zoom meeting from Thursday to Saturday.

Looked at:

- the situation of the building and needed repairs
- national conference
- strategic planning and business model (or organizing principle) and the importance of gift and their management.
- This year has brought 100 new members and programs are expanding. The Council authorized a full time person for programs.
- Importance of core meditative work and leadership responsibilities in the General Council and for the whole of the movement.
- Question of diversity: session with Anthroposophical Prison Outreach which is becoming more and more popular within prisons.
- Reports from the regions: Central Council down to 4 people.
- From a financial and legal standpoint we are strong.
- AGM will be moved online.

Meeting of general secretaries worldwide; there is quite a bit of diversity there. Not as much in the US.

Regional reps had their meeting.

Dave sent a poll for the timing for a couple of 2-hour sessions with the other regional councils. Regional reps proposed the theme of "cultivating the good."

Possible questions for the meeting with other regional councils:

- communications between branches and people outside of them.
- Building relationships with new members (important to know where they are and connect to them).
- Sharing of best practices.

2. Sub Area groups/communication/activity

North East group will meet next week after some dormancy

Mid-Atlantic group has met in various ways. They are trying to have a physical gathering on November 20th. Trying to organize email list: Gino has one through Threefold. To update it need too ask periodically to Deb A-D.

South-East has an emailing list. S-E has been very quiet, other than notifying members of activity. Also project of legacy page: acknowledging people who have passed on and their contributions.

Now there will be areas (for sub-regions or regions).

Dave's question: How do we keep bringing people in this group.

Larger Questions

Are Branch holders creating opportunities to hear new members? Are we reaching out to the members?

Forum to get to know people: reaching out is the key. Important to have people from different branches, states.

Convene people from new study groups and other initiatives to share around their work.

Luigi: proposing to set interviews to collect information from members about pressing needs.

3. Eastern Region website planning

We will set a 1/2 time conversation on the website in 2 weeks from now. The work will be delegated to Sheena and Gino.

4. Newsletter Digest/Resources report

Luigi has had a number of good conversations: Jonathan Hilton (New York), Andrew Linnell (Boston), Barbara Bedingfield (Florida) and with others via email. The Newsletter resource section has expanded with references to blogs and articles on websites. The vision is still fluid. He will wait to solidify it before taking further action through anthroposophy.org.

Next Steps

Please respond to the poll

Video Newsletter for September

Next meeting

July 16, 7:30 pm?