

Arizona Council on
Faith-Based and Community Initiatives
Chair Dr. Gary Kinnaman
May 28, 2009

Minutes

I. Welcome, Invocation and Introductions

- a. Chair Kinnaman welcomed everyone at 8:15 a.m. He then led a brief invocation and recapped the last six months as it related to former Governor Napolitano's Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives and his recent conversation with now Governor Brewer's Office. He has not received anything to suggest the Governor's Office's unwillingness to reestablish a Council on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. He believes that once the current budget crisis comes to resolution that he will hear from the Governor's Office.
- b. Chair Kinnaman thanked the Arizona Department of Economic Security (Judith Fritsch and Susan Hallett, Co-Administrators for the Office of Community Partnerships and Innovative Practices) for staffing the Council with Community Development Coordinator, Chuck Fitzgerald.
- c. John Frick took a few minutes and talked about the work of Food for the Hungry (name taken from Psalms 139). They have worked primarily outside the United States in relief and development capacities. Recent City Initiative efforts have brought "Branded," a campaign to end human sex trafficking in Phoenix. John also told the Council that poverty is a result of broken relationships.
- d. All other attendees (see list below) introduced themselves.

II. Council Moving Forward

- a. There was much discussion about what role a revived Council could and should play. This started with Chair Kinnaman's high praise of Jannah Scott. He went on to mention President Obama's Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnership efforts that will focus on:
 - i. Poverty
 - ii. Reducing Abortions
 - iii. Interfaith Dialogue
 - iv. Role of Men in the Home

- b. As we went around the table, comments were made regarding the value of the Council to continue meeting and what the Council's purpose should be. Here are those comments:
- i. Action is a Key Outcome
 - ii. Political sensitive issues were avoided by the Council in the past due to the connection with the Governor's office
 - iii. Mobilizing the faith community has tremendous potential
 - iv. Faith in Action
 - v. Effecting change via Unity is valuable
 - vi. We need new voices in our advocacy
 - vii. Strengths of communities can help mitigate family challenges
 - viii. There is enormous partnership potential
 - ix. Arizona Department of Health Services should be at the table with us
 - x. Advocacy is important
 - xi. We should look at best practices
 - xii. Governor's Office participation is not vital
 - xiii. Other people need to be included
 - xiv. There is value when people meet with pure hearts and work together to hammer things out
 - xv. Should include more rural and Tribal representation
 - xvi. Government needs community partners to lead this effort
 - xvii. President Obama's administration is making funds available to support efforts like this Council
 - xviii. Collaboration is key
 - xix. The Council is needed for a time such as this
 - xx. Advocacy and Innovative are desired outcomes
 - xxi. We have the ability to mobilize faith resources and expertise
 - xxii. Resources can be found through this collaboration
 - xxiii. We can be the authors of best practices in communities
 - xxiv. Action, affecting change, sustainability need to be strategies
 - xxv. Government and faith connections have improved in the past five years
 - xxvi. Closure is needed regarding the past efforts of the Council
 - xxvii. We should focus on impacting those who have nothing

- xxviii. We have friends in DC
- xxix. We should invite the Governor's Office to our table
- xxx. We cannot wait on the Governor's Office, we have a higher calling
- xxxi. We have an opportunity right now – Rome is Burning
- xxxii. We can provide support and leadership
- xxxiii. We should offer our support to the Governor's Office
- xxxiv. If we were in the Governor's Office, we would be limited in composition, agenda items and design of impact
- xxxv. Meeting statewide is valuable, the connections are valuable
- xxxvi. Power of convening is important
- xxxvii. We can collaborate on grant/funding opportunities
- xxxviii. If we went away, who would fill our role?
- xxxix. Shared sacrifice and justice are our role
 - xl. Tim Bee is continuing the Military Roundtable efforts
 - xli. There is nothing else like this in the State
 - xlii. We might invite legislative participation
 - xliii. We need to find a common rallying cry (children?)

III. Council Composition and Structure

- a. It was agreed to keep the word "Council" in the name as it tends to denote strength, unity and leadership
- b. Rick Knopf suggested the Council consist of "slots" that are filled by individuals. This would help individuals understand their role on the Council and ensure that all constituents around the state are represented.
- c. A taskforce was assembled to look at the composition of the Council. It will meet and bring recommendations to the next Council meeting. The task force includes:
 - i. Rick Knopf (lead)
 - ii. Mitzila Hogans
 - iii. Linda Leatherman
 - iv. Gary Kinnaman
 - v. Paul Martodam
 - vi. Ben Sanders

IV. Items Submitted for Discussion:

- a. Items submitted by Paul Martodam were briefly shared by him. They will be moved to a future agenda for open discussion. They were:
 - i. Funding Campaign in the Faith Community
 - ii. Developing a position on the State budget "as a moral document"

iii. The challenges of immigration

- b. Chair Kinnaman mentioned the idea of having a press release announcing the launch of the Council. This will be a future agenda item.
 - c. Ben Sanders spoke about a recent conference in D.C. that was attended by ten individuals from Arizona at the invitation of Jannah Scott, now with the Department of Homeland Security. He spoke about two Department of Health and Human Services grants that are due on July 7, 2009. He believed the smaller of the two (\$250,000) could be used to help fund the Council over two years. He suggested that DES apply for this grant.
 - d. Judith Fritsch mentioned the Office of Community Partnerships and Innovative Practices had already begun looking into this smaller grant.
 - e. La'Tresa Jester offered the assistance of Lutheran Social Services to apply for the larger grant (\$1,000,000). It was mentioned by Ben Sanders that Jane Wabnik was interested in helping with this.
 - f. Mitzila Hogans said the City of Phoenix is not pursuing the smaller grant, but is interested in partnering with Open Table for the larger one. She will ask her boss how or if she can be involved with the Council's efforts on this.
 - g. Rick Knopf voiced concern over competition for grants amongst the Council members. He believes the Council can play a leadership role around this "funding Issue" within the State.
 - h. A taskforce was formed to look into how to proceed with the larger of the two grants. The taskforce will meet very soon and is composed of:
 - i. La'Tresa Jester (lead)
 - ii. Rick Knopf
 - iii. Jane Wabnik
 - iv. Ben Sanders
 - v. Judith Fritsch
- V. Future meetings will be held monthly on the 4th Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until 12 Noon. Food for the Hungry will host the next meeting on June 25, 2009. Call-in capabilities will be arranged.
- VI. Closing Remarks and Adjourn
- a. Chair Kinnaman offered to be the Council's Chair through the end of 2009.
 - b. Paul Martodam offered to be the Council's Co-Chair through the end of 2009.
 - c. Pastor Grady Scott closed the meeting with a prayer
 - d. Adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Nedra Cox
John Frick
La'Tresa Jester (Charles Monroe)
Dr. Gary Kinnaman
Linda Leatherman

Paul Martodam
Jane Pearson
Ben Sanders
Brian Spicker
Dr. C.T. Wright

Members Absent:

Bishop Henry Barnwell
Bishop Minerva Carcano
Bryan Detwiler
Dan Duncan
Dr. Paul Eppinger

Marchelle Franklin
Tony Garcia
Monsignor Richard O'Keeffe
Jane Wabnik
Cynthia Zwick

Guests in Attendance:

Chuck Fitzgerald
Judith Fritsch
Susan Hallett

Mitzila Hogans
Rick Knopf
Pastor Grady Scott