

## **Camp Quest NorthWest meeting minutes**

**Keisers' house (755 SE 10th St., North Bend, WA 98045)**

**June 29, 2011 at 6:30pm**

Board Members in attendance:

President – Chuck Wolber

Vice President – Brennon Church

Secretary – Jami Blackann

Members at Large – John Keiser, Mary Keiser, Yuichi Shoda

Others in attendance:

Shirley Portegys, Robert Ray, Kofi, Jim Hoerst

### **Action Items:**

- \* Chuck: Start filing process with the State of Washington.
- \* Chuck: Look into IntelliCorp for background checking and see if they're reputable.
- \* Chuck: Talk to Native American contact about logo design. Is it an acceptable symbol for the Northwest, or is it offensive? Are there ways to alter it, or should we scrap it?
- \* Chuck: Get press contacts from Amanda, talk to her about advertising.
- \* Chuck: American Atheists article – contact Pamela.
- \* Chuck: Contact Amanda about setting up a week-long camp next year. Find out her availability.
- \* Chuck & John: Work on the website (rough draft by next meeting), ChipIn, Wordpress
- \* Chuck: Look into American Camping Association Certification
- \* Chuck: Create separate email list for people who are only interested in sending their kids to camp.
- \* Chuck: Update email lists with new contacts.
- \* Chuck: Contact bloggers about CQNW.
- \* John: Work on press release.
- \* Brennon: Contact Cottage Lake and Waskowitz about tour dates.
- \* Brennon: Continue working on freethought activities for August potluck.

- \* Jami: Make a sign with logo for the Fourth of July Picnic (Fast Signs).
- \* Jami: Update brochure inserts and replace old ones.
- \* Jami: T-shirts (or at the very least, buttons) for the Fourth. Board members only.
- \* Jami: Send email to Chuck with Fremont and Pride sign-ups.
- \* Jami: Make note in CQNW August Meetup about food/utensils/no alcohol.
- \* Jami: Send email sign-ups to Chuck.
- \* Jami: Talk to Eliza about being a camp doctor.
- \* Mary: Freethought activities for ages seven and under.
- \* Mary: Look into North Bend gymnasium rental for November event.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

**Start time:** 7:00 p.m.

- \* Minutes from last two meetings were approved.
- \* Jerry wasn't present, so there was no financial report.
- \* Went over action items from last meeting:
  - \* Chuck got the domains and brochures. Brochures were delivered to Brennon and then to Jami. He also set up a mailing list: [camp-quest-northwest-organizing-committee@googlegroups.com](mailto:camp-quest-northwest-organizing-committee@googlegroups.com)
  - \* Google site – No progress can be made until we become incorporated.
  - \* Jami – Made inserts for brochures, redrew the logo in vector format, worked on logo variations.
  - \* Mary gathered information about getting background checks: Brennon suggested IntelliCorp – Chuck to check if they're reputable. Also should get a locking file box to store background checks and other important documents.

### **Bylaws:**

- \* Conflict of Interest – changes approved unanimously.
- \* Indemnification – changes approved unanimously.
- \* Bylaws were adopted unanimously.
- \* Chuck to start filing process with the State of Washington.

- \* Board picture and signatures at next meeting, or whenever we're all together again.

### **Fundraising:**

- \* Have raised \$2,500 from Rapture Relief.
- \* Camp Quest Inc. will give us a \$2,500 start-up grant.
- \* Google Ads, SA has free Ad Words
- \* Press Release
- \* Website with ChipIn widget, Wordpress.

### **Logo:**

- \* Jami presented the logo design with different arrangements of text. Discussion ensued over which font to use. CQ prefers Chili Pepper for branding purposes, but Lithos (bold) goes better with logo. We decided to use Lithos font for the banner, text to the right of logo.
- \* Discussion about use of Pacific Native American art style – Could it be offensive? Chuck to investigate logo. Possible design modifications proposed: thicken lines of the atom outline; use a DNA helix instead of swirl in the center; add more science symbolism instead of abstract shapes.
- \* Proposed website rough draft by next meeting. Donations through a ChipIn widget, which is connected to a Paypal account. Could use Seattle Atheists in the meantime.
- \* Chuck will talk to Amanda in Ohio and get press contacts for press release. John has experience writing press releases from Rapture Relief and will work on CQNW copy.
- \* Chuck was designated as spokesperson.
- \* John designated as backup spokesperson.

### **Advertising contacts:**

- \* Email bloggers, such as PZ Myers, Jen McCreight, Hemant, etc. (Chuck)
- \* Seattle Atheists/Agnostics parenting groups (Kofi)
- \* When school's in session, PTA meetings – Will need to craft pitch specifically about science and critical thinking.
- \* Home school networks (Robert)
- \* Foundation Beyond Belief
- \* Unitarian Churches (Shirley)
- \* Secular Student Alliance – getting a lot of high school groups. Could get volunteers, connections to families and younger siblings. (Shirley)
- \* NWFC – Umbrella group for freethinkers. (Robert)
- \* National – FFRF, SCA, AA – broadcasting the message that we need money
- \* Facebook is a good way to find camp counselors. John created the page during the meeting.
- \* John created a Twitter account: CampQuestNW
- \* AHA newsletter (Robert)
- \* Find Camp Quest promotional video to put on website.
- \* Chuck – talk to Amanda about what she can do to help with advertising. They'll put us on their main page.

\* American Atheists – We’re going to be in their magazine. Chuck to engage Pamela about an article.

\* Jami will update inserts in brochures, send updated logo to everyone.

\* Fremont and Pride review: Seattle Atheists advertised CQNW in their booth for both weekends. We got a handful of email sign-ups. Atheist parents were really interested. Got better dialogue/traffic during the Fremont Fair. People were more interested in SA merchandise during Pride.

\* During events: We should always have greeters, lots of pictures. Make sure to respect wishes about privacy. Make an announcement about taking pictures.

### **August CQNW Potluck Picnic:**

\* Cottage Lake (18831 NE Woodinville Duvall Rd, Woodinville, WA 98077)

\* Org to provide utensils, drinks (keep it healthy), grill supplies (charcoal and lighter fluid) – Costco. This should be mentioned on the Meetup (Jami). No alcohol.

\* Brennon to be reimbursed for reservation costs – keep things formal, like a business. Work with Jerry to straighten things out.

\* Brennon relayed that the ropes course is \$300 for two hours, ages ten and older.

\* We should have a rehearsal meeting at the park asap.

\* Seattle Atheists to provide canopy and table.

Brennon and John shared their research into kids’ activities. Some of them include:

- Egg Containers - Build containers using given materials to protect eggs from being dropped.

The following are taken from [education.com](http://www.education.com). There are hundreds there, but these are the ones I thought matched best with our purpose.

- Can Crunching - Show that air, though unseen, has properties that we can test. In this case, a difference in air pressure causes a can to “crush itself.”

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/Crunch\\_Can\\_middle/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/Crunch_Can_middle/)

- Blowing out candles - Same idea as above. Perhaps these and others could be combined into one larger activity with multiple goals.

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/Learn\\_about\\_air\\_first/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/Learn_about_air_first/)

- Curds & Whey - Use vinegar to separate milk out into curds floating in whey. Teaches about colloid vs. suspension liquids and also light refraction (why is milk white when the particles are mostly clear. [http://www.education.com/activity/article/Curds\\_Whey\\_middle/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/Curds_Whey_middle/)

- Acids and Bases produce colors - Use acids and bases producing color to explain chemical reactions. Possibly combine this with other chemistry-type activities.

<http://www.education.com/activity/article/acids-bases-produce-rainbow-colors/>

- Make Marshmallows - Edible Chemistry, like ice cream above. This one takes 4 1/2 hours to mix and wait, so it might be a bit hard to do. It might be possible as a first project that is then revisited at the very end of the day. It might work better at an overnight camp though, as you can (presumably) then roast the marshmallows at a campfire.

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/marshmallow\\_science/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/marshmallow_science/)

- Human-powered light bulb - Show that static electricity can be used to light fluorescent bulbs. This might not work in well-lit conditions, but could be a good one indoors or at night.

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/Make\\_Electricity\\_fifth/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/Make_Electricity_fifth/)

- Baggie Ice Cream - This is similar to the earlier ice cream experiment but doesn't use dry ice, which might make it better for kids as this would be more hands-on for them.

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/Ice\\_Cream\\_fifth/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/Ice_Cream_fifth/)

- Build a paper hovercraft - Another air project.

[http://www.education.com/activity/article/make\\_a\\_hover\\_craft\\_fourth/](http://www.education.com/activity/article/make_a_hover_craft_fourth/)

- Make hand warmers - More chemistry. <http://www.education.com/activity/article/warm-hands-iron-rusts/>

For younger kids:

- Capillary Action - <http://www.education.com/activity/article/capillary-action-action/>

- Making Fossils - Kids could make fossils of leaves, twigs, stones, whatever they find.

<http://www.education.com/activity/article/capillary-action-action/>

- Baking Soda & Vinegar - A classic, but always fun for young kids.

<http://www.education.com/activity/article/capillary-action-action/>

\* Mary volunteered to work on some more freethought activities for ages seven and under.

\* We need to have a backup for each activity, in case it rains.

\* Raffle – jewelry, EvolveFish

Agenda for August Potluck:

\* First two hours for food and mingling

\* 2pm - Presentation

\* Icebreaker activities

\* Main events 3-5pm

\* Closing

\* Need to have next meeting picked out. Sometime in November, gymnasium preferred. Mary said there's one in North Bend. Nonprofit rate: \$30/hr

\* Need to get demographics on children's ages.

\* SA to provide canopies.

\* Again, no alcohol.

\* Liability insurance for kids – Possible to buy it for around \$500 a year

**Next year's camp:**

Camp Waskowitz has gotten a lot of positive feedback.

\* Only \$250 for a placeholder, can book several years in advance.

\* We'd like to try opening week-long camp, probably in August.

\* Chuck to contact Amanda about setting up a camp next year. Amanda said she will come to our camp and be our director.

\* Find volunteer legal counsel

\* Jami – send email contacts to Chuck

### **Camp Quest Ohio:**

\* Chuck talked about his experience at Camp Quest Ohio. He passed around their schedule and other materials, which he'll type out and send to the list.

\* Camp Inquiry – a little different. Have famous speakers come in.

\* Jami to talk to Eliza about being camp doctor.

\* Ratio of campers to staff: 2 to 1

\* Calculating our expenses for a camp: comes to \$630 per student

\* To do: Counselor in Training program

\* Chuck - American Camping Association Certification

### **July Picnic Plan:**

\* Table with canopy, sign, information. No shift schedule. T-shirts (or just buttons) for board members.

\* August – need signage for directions to park.

\* Jim – Offered to put together a fundraising banquet, fancy evening. Socrates café. We'd need a nice venue. Jim will cook.

\* Put a wish list of supplies on the website – Amazon “Buy Through Us” link.

\* Chuck – another email list for people who want to send their kids to camp only.

### **Next meeting:**

Keisers' house (755 SE 10th St., North Bend, WA 98045)

Wednesday, July 6, 7pm sharp

### **Meeting after that:**

Sunday, July 10 – We will tour Waskowitz or Cottage Lake, depending on availability.

Jul 31 – Other tour.

**End time:** 10:22pm