

**Reversing Falls Sanctuary Program Team Meeting
April 9, 2024**

Present: Anne Ferrara, Tony Ferrara, Daksha Bauman, Sheila Moir, Elaine Hewes, Gary Vencill, Joan Tibbits, Patricia Wheeler and Emily Blair Stribling (scribe).

Sheila, the facilitator, opened the meeting by inviting everyone to tell the group one thing the group didn't know about them. She then offered us a wonderful quote from Shakespeare.

*"Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head;
And this, our life, exempt from public haunts,
Finds tongues in trees, books in brooks,
Sermons in stones and good in everything.*

*William Shakespeare
As You Like It - I, iii*

The minutes of the March 12 meeting were approved.

EVALUATION OF PAST PROGRAMS

QiGong and Taichi

RFS Art/ Sketch Club

Book Group

Women's Circle

Echo Spirituality

The Art of Protest with Rob Shetterly, March 17 and Pat Wheeler April 7.

QiGong and Taichi, Mon. and Thurs. 9-11

Ongoing

RFS Art Club/Sketch Group Wed. 4-6: Ongoing. Daksha's Art Salon a big hit and she will continue as long as people are interested.

Book Group will meet Tues. May 30 at 11. They are reading *The Dictionary of Lost Words*.

Women's Circle will meet again Sun April 14.

Eco Spirituality with Andi Lloyd will pick up again May 26. Tony made the suggestion that those who want have shown an interest in becoming more active could form an off-shoot of the larger group meeting at RFS on the last Sunday of the month. He suggested joining with other climate activists in the area. There will be a suggested list of those groups available at the next meeting.

The Art of Protest with Rob Shetterly was once again well attended and very meaningful to all who attended. Rob brought 10 portraits to the program.

Pat Wheeler's Art exhibit and films, rescheduled due to weather to April 7 was also a moving and meaningful event for all who attended.

COMING EVENTS

Dud Hendrick's film and Doug Rawlings event canceled due to weather. Rawlings will be rescheduled for June and Dud Hendrick in the fall.

Mud and Miracles Retreat with Richard Ackerman on April 6 was canceled due to weather and will be rescheduled for the fall.

Bea Gates' LGBT event is scheduled for June 23rd and she is organizing the event.

Hannah Semler of Farm Drop has been contacted to schedule an event during the summer. She has yet to be reached.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Farrow-Noble reading of her Novel, *Marta's Mission*, discussion of date. Anne and others were looking into when they would be here in Maine.

Hospice Event discussion and a date needs to be agreed upon.

ONGOING DISCUSSIONS TOPICS

Building and grounds Maintenance Needs: Daksha has agreed to write something up for the board. It was discussed that there may be some real liability issues if grounds are not kept up.

Strategic Planning: Sheila discussed that a group needs to be appointed that can look into this issue.

Building Use Coordinator/Program Coordinator is tabled for now as there are no funds available.

Joining the Network of Spiritual Progressives: Gary will look into what this entails and if it is something that will benefit RFS ongoing commitment to the community.

NEXT MEETING: May 14th.

