

# Interfaith Peace Walk for Jewish-Muslim Reconciliation

Philadelphia – May 2, 2004

## Minutes of Meeting No. 3

<b>Location</b>	Philadelphia, PA	<b>Issue Date</b>	February 15, 2004
<b>Type</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call	<b>Date Held</b>	February 10, 2004
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Place Held</b>	Christian Association, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
<b>Subject</b>	Third Interfaith Peace Walk for Jewish-Muslim Reconciliation Planning Meeting	<b>Recorded By</b>	L. Laver

<p><b>Participants:</b> (*Denotes Part-Time)</p> <p>Dr. M. Almashhadani, Al-Aqsa Society          Judith Axler, Temple Beth Zion Beth Israel (BZBA)          Mohammad Aziz, ISGUR          Allison Carter, Temple BZBI / Arab-Jewish Dialogue Group</p> <p>Joe Clay, St. Vincent de Paul          Vic Compher, Tabernacle United Church (TAB)          Fara Gaye          Jim Feldman, Mishkan Shalom          Monica Hannon          Ahmed Hefuna, Arab-Jewish Dialogue Group          Haajerah Khan          Marwan Kreidie, Philo-Arab American CDL          Lance Laver, Mishkan Shalom / ICBG          Rob Rafi Levin          Herb Levine, Fellowship Farm / GJC          Dr. Nancy Lydick          Rabbi Jill Maderer, Rodeph Shalom          Jim McGovern, Catholic Peace Coalition          George Mordecai, BZBI / Arab-Jewish Dialogue Group          Victoria Pearson, Christian Association, Univ. of Penn          April Rosenblum, Mishkan Shalom / Temple University          Jenny Sawyer, TAB / Ulster Project          Mohamed Shehuto, Al-Aqsa Society          Tariq Scherfen          Lil Sigal, Mishkan Shalom          Sharon Sigal, Mishkan Shalom          Rebina Tareen          Dena Zakaria, Al-Aqsa Society / Interfaith Dialogue</p>	<p><b>Distribution:</b></p> <p>Attendees</p> <p>Irv Ackelsberg          Elayne Ashbey          Kathy Bergen</p> <p>Joe Brenman          Joanie Brooks          Wilbur Bryant          Mitchell Chanin          Brian Daniels          Katie Day          Roy Feinberg          Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb          Jan Hamer          Eman Hasan          Rabbi Linda Holtzman          Adab Ibrahim          Riham Ibrahim          Rachel Kamel          Josef Kardos          Rabbi Nancy Kreimer          Jeanne Ayesha Lauenborg          Mary Laver          Margaret Lenzi          Rabbi Yael Levy          Steve Masters          Malik Mubashshir          My Mohammad          Ahmad Muhammed</p>	<p>Patricia Pearce          Alex Pearl          Susan Quant          Abdul Rauf Campos-Marquetti          Janis Risch          Sue Rouda          Larry Snider          Cy Swartz          Lois Swartz          Robin Syed          Susan Teegen-Case          Rhoda Toperzer          Carol Towarnicky          Antonio Valle          Abdul Yassin          Ahlam Yassin          Simone Zelitch</p>
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Date: February 15, 2004

Page 2 of 5

No.	Item	Action By	Due Date
3.01	<b>Purpose:</b> Third Philadelphia-area group Peace Walk planning meeting.		
3.02	<b>Opening prayer/Introductions:</b> Rev. Dr. Beverly Dale of the Penn Christian Association offered the opening prayer, followed by introductions of all present.		
3.03	<b>Minutes of Meeting No. 2:</b> There were no additional comments.		
3.04	<b>Peace Walk history:</b> Vic Compher offered a brief history of the genesis of the Peace Walk for the benefit of the new participants. He noted that an Albuquerque rabbi (Lynn Gottlieb) called an Islamic leader (Abdul Rauf) with a desire to walk from her synagogue to his mosque. That Peace Walk and two others followed in Albuquerque, as well as one in New York City last September 11 (from Ground Zero to a Harlem mosque). These leaders now have a grant from the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) to promote Peace Walks in other cities, and they will join the Philadelphia Walk on 5/2/04. Vic noted that he met them on an FOR delegation last February to the Middle East (including Jordan, Lebanon, Israel and the West Bank). He pointed out that each Walk develops in its own way, through walking from one holy site to another. It is not a political march; rather, it is an attempt to learn from each other what we have in common.		
3.05	<p><b>Statement of purpose:</b> The sub-committee working on the mission statement (and Walk route) disseminated draft copies of a proposed statement, noted below with some minor edits suggested at the meeting. The draft will undergo some further edits and additions prior to final publication:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Interfaith Peace Walk for Jewish-Muslim Reconciliation</i></b>  <i>Sunday, May 2, 2004, at 1:00 p.m. [Note time change below]</i>  <i>From Al-Aqsa Mosque to Congregation Rodeph Shalom</i></p> <p><i>We invite people of all faiths to join us on a Walk from the Al-Aqsa Mosque to Congregation Rodeph Shalom, to give witness to our belief that peace between people of all faiths is possible. We lament war and the loss of all life, and pray for the safety and freedom of all people. We embrace hope, not fear. We place our trust not in military might, but in God's desire for love and justice as the true pathway of peace.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Let us call out Salaam. Let us call out Shalom.</i></b>  <b><i>Let us call out Peace in the language of Love.</i></b></p> <p><b>Route:</b> <i>[To be added]</i></p> <p><b>PLEASE WEAR WHITE</b> (at least white shirts), carry water and snacks to share. Banners are invited to say the words for peace: Salam, Shalom, Peace. NO POLITICAL BANNERS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PEACE VANS</b> will accompany us on our journey  <b>For more information, contact:</b> <i>[to be added]</i></p>		

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Page 3 of 5

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3.06	<p><b>Peace Walk route:</b> The group discussed the route proposed by the sub-committee and agreed on the following basic route (particular streets to be finalized):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet at Al-Aqsa mosque at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jefferson Street.</li> <li>• Walk south on Fourth Street to Vine Street and stop at St. Augustine's Church (1.3 miles).</li> <li>• Walk past City Hall on Market Street to the Liberty Bell.</li> <li>• Walk up Market Street to Broad Street to Rodeph Shalom.</li> </ul> <p>At each house of prayer (and the Liberty Bell), there will be a short service (TBD). After the final service at Rodeph Shalom, George Mordecai suggested a Peace Café with a sample of musical and cultural expressions. Vans will transport people back to Al-Aqsa from Rodeph Shalom at the conclusion of the Walk and program there. The entire walk is less than four miles, including the Liberty Bell stop, which is included as a symbol of freedom, helping tie us together as people of faith. (Note: The Albuquerque and New York walks were closer to 6-7 miles each, but the group agreed to keep the length shorter and maximize the participation/en route experiences.) See below for suggested timing.</p>	Route sub-committee	1/13/04
3.07	<p><b>Outreach:</b> The group brainstormed about ways to do outreach to other possible organizations and faith communities, and noted the following to contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-Faith Center; Brandywine Peace Fellowship; Islamic Department at Villanova; Jewish Community Relations Council; Penn; Temple; American Jewish Committee; Center City Kehillah; Board of Rabbis; Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting; Reconstructionist Rabbinical College; churches, synagogues and mosques in the area; Friends' meeting houses; Archdiocese of Philadelphia (Interfaith office); multi-campus Hillel; coalition of churches in New Jersey; Black churches in the area; Shalom Aleichem Club; Center Foundation (Media); Institute of Global Dialogue (Haverford); Shalom Center; Progressive Zionist Alliance; African American Islamic Alliance; (Maglis en-sura); Philadelphia masjid; media outlets (e.g., WYBE, WHYI).</li> </ul> <p>People signed up to contact the above organizations, and the group felt all should maintain a common theme (see earlier Minutes and above for history/purpose). Everyone also is encouraged to contact other organizations within his/her own faith community and to pursue outreach either individually or in multi-faith groups, if feasible. Personal contact is preferred, e-mail second.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dena Zakaria will collect resources and set up a grid for contact coordination/commitments.</li> <li>• Vic will contact Rabbi Gottlieb and Abdul Rauf for "boiler plate" press releases to use as a guide.</li> </ul>		

**INTERFAITH PEACE WALK for MUSLIM-JEWISH RECONCILIATION  
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**Meeting Minutes No. 3**

Date: February 15, 2004

Page 4 of 5

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marwan Kriedie will contact the Philadelphia Civil Affairs Unit captain re permitting (if required) and logistical support.</li> </ul>		
3.08	<p><b>Committees:</b> After brainstorming about needed activities and functions prior to the Walk, the group set up the following working sub-committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Program/Worship Sub-Committee:</b> Responsible for developing the services/programs at each house of prayer/stop; music and other artistic pieces.</li> </ul> <p><b>Volunteers:</b>            Mohammad Aziz (mhammodi@hotmail.com), Fara Gaye (faragaye@yahoo.com),            Lance Laver (llaver4@comcast.net),            Rob Levin (rafirob@aol.com),            Rabbi Yael Levy (ravyael@mishkan.org),            Jim McGovern (batesius@yahoo.com),            George Mordecai (girji@juno.com),            April Rosenblum (grapeape@temple.edu),            Lil Sigal (lilsigal@verizon.com),            Sharon Sigal (simasong@aol.com),            Billy Yalowitz (byalowitz@dca.net).</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> The group set out the following proposed timeline for the Walk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12:30 – 1:00 PM: Meet at Al-Aqsa Mosque. (Note: M. Aziz will contact the mosque to see when midday prayers are completed.)</li> <li>1:10 – 1:30 PM: Gather in the mosque for greetings and opening prayers/intentions (time subject to conclusion of mosque midday prayers—to be confirmed).</li> <li>1:30 – 2:30 PM: Walk to St. Augustine's Church (1.3 m.).</li> <li>2:30 – 2:45 PM: Prayers at the church.</li> <li>2:45 – 3:00 PM: Walk to Liberty Bell (.7 miles).</li> <li>3:00 – 3:25 PM: Program at the Liberty Bell.</li> <li>3:30 – 4:30 PM: Walk to Rodeph Shalom (1.5 miles).</li> <li>4:30 – 4:45 PM: Prayers at the synagogue.</li> <li>4:50 – 6:00 PM: Interactive Peace Café.</li> <li>6:00 PM (or earlier): Vans return to Al-Aqsa Mosque.</li> </ul> <p><b>Next meeting:</b> The Program/Worship sub-committee next will meet on Tuesday, February 24 at 7:30 PM at Mishkan Shalom, 4101 Freeland Avenue, Philadelphia.            .....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Outreach Sub-Committee:</b> Responsible for public relations, media and outreach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Volunteers:</b> Judith Axler (harbater@math.upenn.edu),            Vic Compher (viccompher@comcast.net),            Jim Feldman (aelaw2@aol.com),            Haajerah Khan (haajkahn@hotmail.com),            Herb Levine (execff@aol.com),</p>		

## Meeting Minutes No. 3

Date: February 15, 2004

Page 5 of 5

No.	Item	Action By	Due Date
	<p>Nancy (Nasiha) Lydick (nm.lydick@verizon.net),            Jim McGovern (batesius@yahoo.com),            Rubina Tareen (rtareen@earthlink.net),            Dena Zakaria (denapsu@hotmail.com).</p> <p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conflict Resolution Sub-Committee:</b> Responsible for peace keeping and conflict resolution planning/action.</li> </ul> <p><b>Volunteers:</b>            Dr. Mohammad Almashhadani (mhammodi@hotmail.com),            Allison Carter (aicarter@aol.com),            Joe Clay (jvfc3@msn.com),            Jenny Sawyer (jenny.sawyer@phila.gov),            Tariq Scherfen (rtareen@earthlink.net).</p> <p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Logistics Sub-Committee:</b> Responsible for finalizing route, refreshments, vans/transport, legal/emergency issues, permitting and civil affairs support</li> </ul> <p><b>Volunteers:</b>            Ahmed Hefuna (menchilin@yahoo.com),            Marwan Kreidie (mkridie1@comcast.net),            Rabbi Jill Maderer (rabbimaderer@rodephshalom.org),            Victoria Pearson (pearson@pobox.upenn.edu).</p> <p>.....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fund Raising Sub-Committee:</b> No data received on this sub-committee.</li> </ul> <p>.....</p> <p>Note: See <i>Resource List [Attendees at Planning Meetings]</i> for complete list of volunteers, e-mail addresses and phone numbers.</p>		
3.09	<p><b>Next Peace Walk planning meeting:</b> Location and place TBD. Will transmit information by e-mail to planners.</p>		