

UUFC BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 13, 2017

Present: Craig Olbrich , Marcia Shaw , Carl English-Young, Kathy Kopczynski, Kelley Kendall, Joan Rose, Virginia Shapiro, Uta Hussong-Christian, Jen Akeroyd , Elona Meyer

Absent: John Bailey

Staff: Jill McAllister, Jean Gilbert, Jamie Petts, Elizabeth Sollie

Guests: Jay Hoffman, Louise Ferrell

Member Comment

Jay Hoffman was invited to address the Board regarding the stewardship goal to attain 100% responses from members during pledge campaigns. He was concerned that pressure to pledge, when a contribution will mean economic hardship, can be misunderstood by members. Our minister noted that this is really a pastoral care issue. While 100% *response* is our aim; 100% *contributing* is not a goal. It's understood that some members will not be in a position to pledge.

Consent Agenda

The following consent agenda items were unanimously approved/received: Financial statements, Minister's Report, Board minutes, and Decision-Making document (draft). The current approach to attaining Board approval/consent is to ask for questions, concerns, or challenges. If none are expressed, approval is presumed.

Announcements, etc

Elona asked for volunteers from the Board to assist as small group facilitators at the Town Hall on Racism, scheduled for November 16th. Craig, Uta, and Kathy agreed to assist.

We had our first reading of our Contract Review policy (draft); we are asked to provide any comments or questions by December 1st. The policy draft will remain available on google doc.

The City approved the CZC's use permit application. It is expected that the sale will close at the end of November or early December.

House Revenue Decision

Marcia facilitated a discussion on how to best use the proceeds from the sale of the house as it was not purchased as an investment originally. Possible options include placing proceeds in 1) the operating budget, 2) the reserves, 3) the building fund, and/or 4) real estate/re-investment. Using the "3-round council" format, we discussed the options. Although there was sympathy for contributing toward or providing housing for the homeless, we concluded that proceeds from the sale should go the building fund without determining its specific use for the three years the enhancement project is under construction. After that, the BoT can choose to redirect funds.

Finance Items - Liaison And Solar Panel Accounting

After a brief discussion, Craig agreed to become the Board Liaison to the Investment Committee.

After 8 years, when we have re-paid the investment account for the solar installation, the monthly mortgage payment to us will be \$1400/Mo. It was agreed that arrangements made by our Business Manager to track the repayment of the solar investment were entirely acceptable.

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Building & Ground Expenses

The Building and Grounds expenses will exceed funding allocated, because of the removal of several trees that were dying. We agreed to replenish the B & G account with \$2000 from the Board discretionary fund. Marcia volunteered to provide a notice of the removal in the newsletter. Carl and Uta will also include this information in the Board Report.

Board Goals & Tasks

Uta led the Board in an activity designed to assist us in developing action plans for each Board Goal. We worked in pairs; each pair selected 2 goals to work on. It was agreed that action plans will be posted on google doc, to allow for further editing or clarification, as needed. One Board goal, overhauling the By Laws, is underway by Kyle, Linda Hardison, Kelley, and Carl. This may be a two year process.

Revenue Generation

Jen presented major concepts from her "Exploring Revenue" report, to provide a basis for further discussion on generating revenue. It was noted that the greatest portion of our revenue each year comes from a relatively small number of members who pledge generously. The median pledge amount across all contributors is \$1200. A majority of UUFC members pledge less than \$600/year. This is typical of other congregations of our size.

We could consider grant applications as a potential income source, among others. Contributing through stocks and equities may not be broadly understood by members. Funding through endowments is another fruitful option that may not have been explored fully. To fully tap endowments, communications with members need to include information on them. This has been unevenly pursued. Louise Ferrell has in the past provided helpful support in communicating to members regarding endowments.

A stewardship task force, Uta, Virginia, and Kathy, met to develop the town hall addressing stewardship earlier in the fall and will meet again before the next meeting. It was decided that we will devote 30 minutes to stewardship in our December meeting.

The Board meeting was adjourned at approximately 9 PM.