

UUCSR Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2013

Opening Words and Chalice Lighting: (Rev Chris)

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Susan Bartholome, Jeanie Bates (Vice President), Lois Bell, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hageman (President), Mary Louise Jaffray, Lois Nagle, Alan Proulx, Cathie Wiese (Secretary), Peter Wilson

Non-Members Present: Rev Chris Bell, Bryan Plude (Intern Minister), Art Rosenblum (Treasurer), Jan Prater (Recording Secretary)

Agenda Review: Additions to the Agenda - Planning for Future Interns, and next Board Meeting dates to be May 9 and/or May 16

Minutes from March Meeting: Approved with the following corrections: In report from Infrastructure, change "Sept Meeting" to "Fall Meeting." In Within/Without report, change May 26th to March 24th. Correct typo from "Nortbay" to "Northbay" Organizing Project. Correct that Board member Lois Nagle was present.

Open Mic: (Rev Chris) We have a new District Executive, Joshua Searle White. He has written a couple of children's books, and will be coming to the upcoming Regional Meeting. Also, Bryan shared some tragic news from the Davis Congregation: a lovely elderly couple, founding members, were found murdered in their home. A Service for them was held in Davis last night. [The Board all signed a sympathy card to send.]

Treasurer's Report: (Art Rosenblum) We are in the red \$4,627 which is "less than we expected to be in the red." We are going to have a change in our accounting structure - which Linda Balabanian will explain in the near future. Alan Proulx would be interested to know where we are month to month as compared to the same months last year.

Canvass: Update on Pledge Received (Mary Louise) We still have some "mop-up" calls to make. We have a rough working number of \$388,000. (Rev Chris) We anticipate going over \$400,000 - we use a little lower number for the Budget planning process. Hopefully by the end of the month we'll have a firm number.

Evaluations of Pledge Gala: Lois Bell said she really enjoyed the event and thanks everyone. Joe thought having the food at the committee tables might have been distracting. Cathie thought the RE area might have been too far away - maybe signs would help. Mary Louise thought it might be good to publish the program ahead of time. Jeanie thought it was kind of fun but a lot of work for those who brought food and staffed tables, would like to be assured that it was worth it. Rev Chris thought it was a successful Canvass but maybe not so successful as a community fair - maybe should be done separately. Cathie likes the group pledge concept instead of one-on-one. Art thought the one-on-one important but not necessary every year. The Canvass Committee will be meeting on May 1st to evaluate.

Extra May Board Meeting: (Laura Jean) May 9 is tentatively scheduled for an extra Board meeting depending on pledge drive results for the Budget. Laura Jean will let Board members know around the first of May; otherwise the next meeting will be May 16th. [LJ did let the members know that the extra meeting would not be necessary.]

Authorization to Sign Grant Application for the Saturday Breakfast: (Laura Jean) We started getting the grants 5 or 6 years ago; Mary Louise (with help) has been doing it for the last 2 or 3. We have a request to authorize Mary Louise to be able to sign the grant application - for convenience sake. Moved to approve (Joe), 2nd (Jeanie) - motion passed.

Sabbatical Planning: (Laura Jean) The committee met and Rev Chris presented names of three people to be considered for Sabbatical ministers. However, one candidate has since removed himself and another is not available the whole time. There is still time to look at more candidates - possibly more than one person to cover the various roles. Bryan must be supervised by the person

and so he hopes to feel comfortable with them. Jeanie stated that articles will begin to appear in the newsletter on this topic on a regular basis.

Intern Planning: (Laura Jean) If we want to be eligible for a grant for a new intern [after Bryan] we need to apply by this coming Nov. Laura Jean distributed a printed timeline for this process. She already brought this to the Financial Stewardship's meeting and it looked like we would need an additional \$5,000 for 2014/15 for each year of a 2 yr part time internship. Fine Stew said that we could manage this financially if it's something we want to do. Rev Chris supports the idea of having another intern. Bryan says there is a need for teaching churches in the Bay Area. Jeanie asked, "Do we need to bring this to the Congregation?" Mary Louise is concerned about making an ongoing commitment in terms of the Budget. Alan and Joe would like to have this item on the Agenda for the next Congregational Meeting. Alan moved that the Board recommend that we continue to be a Teaching Congregation in the years 2014/2015, 2nd (Joe), motion approved with one abstention.

Board Retreat Planning: (Jeanie) We need to create a subcommittee for further planning of the Board Retreat - Alan, Rev Chris, Susan, Laura Jean and Jeanie volunteered. Rev Chris would like not to be the Facilitator this time. Jeanie suggests one item to revisit is the Goal Groups.

Report from Infrastructure Goal Group: (John) Working on bid for HP 1 or 2. Also a bid for HP in RE. Service costs will increase about 10% with HP 1 and 2 included. Also, he met with Jan Hess and her husband John A. who is a Civil Engineer and Architect. John A. discovered an issue which is that two exits are required. They will meet with the Fire Department to discuss this further. Also, "breakers" was not listed on the Infrastructure Spreadsheet. The breaker system is being studied; we need to expedite these expenditures. At next meeting we need to decide what amount we will be asking for at the Congregational Meeting.

Communications Team Expansion: (Peter Wilson) Peter along with with John Chenoweth, friend Scott and new member Sean, a software developer, are redesigning the website. We have a new server in place. The changes will allow individual committees to update their areas on the website.

Lessons from Committee Fair: (Laura Jean) She wanted the Teams concept presented to the Congregation at the Fair. Still looking for more ways of making our structure visible, and to draw people in.

Report from Community Within and Without Goal Group: (Jeanie) The new name for the Volunteer Task Force is the "Congregation Outreach Team." They met April 14th and are off and running. They have created an interview to use with members, also a database, and a list of programs. Gretchen Vap and Phyllis Clement are co-chairs. They have a change of goals from "looking for volunteers" to "involving members." Board members Jeanie and Cathie are stepping away but Alan and Lois Nagle will continue on the committee.

Report from Spiritual Life Goal Group: (Lois Bell) The Adult RE committee has met and will continue to meet twice a month for the time being. They have a lot of enthusiasm and good ideas! Susan would like a meeting of the original Spiritual Life Goal Group: Peter, Joe, Rev Chris and Susan.

Final Reflections and Appreciations: Jeanie would like to appreciate her Goal Group - great working with you and we got the job done! Lois Nagle thanks to Jan for taking notes. Rev Chris appreciates Daniel Reid in particular and everyone - David Templeton and Aphrodite - who helped make the Service without the power. Laura Jean loved the lighting in the women's restroom.

Rev Chris reports that we need to restrict access to our outside plugs to discourage homeless camping there. He said it's also okay to turn people away from private meetings if necessary.

Closing Words: (Alan)

Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Submitted by Jan Prater