

UUCO Board Meeting

4/23/2018

Attendees: Walter Flaschka, Sandra Moss, Marge Holland, Dinorah Sapp, Marty Fino, Eunice Benton, Gail Stratton, Amy Pearson, Mari Kuhnle

Process Observer: Walter Flaschka

Approval of Minutes: Eunice moved to accept the minutes from the last meeting, Mari Kuhnle seconded the motion; motion unanimously passed.

Discussion of affiliation letter from Rev. Gail Stratton: Gail reviewed the reasons for having a letter of affiliation, especially since our congregation has two unaffiliated UU ministers as members. The affiliation document outlines the services that Rev. Stratton would perform for the congregation, such as leading four services per year. She emphasized that she would be happy to perform other services/functions for the UUCO congregation but she needs to be asked and expectations should be clear re fees, if any are involved. Rev. Stratton emphasized that the fee is a relatively minor issue as compared to clarifying what services/functions she would perform. Eunice advocated for a ministerial committee to explore how the referral to the needy party would be made and specific attention to how the issue of fee or no fee would be handled with the needy party. Eunice moved to bring the affiliation letter presented by Rev. Stratton to the congregation for affirmation at an upcoming Town Hall meeting, Amy Pearson seconded the motion; motion was passed unanimously.

2018 Pledge Drive: Gail Stratton reported on the current status of the Annual Fund Drive. She noted that pledges so far are about the same as last year but are falling short of this year's goal of \$60,000. The stewardship gatherings appeared to go well and Gail felt that next year further emphasis should be placed on the pledge gatherings as being a time to connect with one another. Walter moved to thank Gail Stratton and Martha Scott for their efforts on the Annual Fund Drive; seconded by Mari Kuhnle; unanimously passed.

Discussion and Board action on the Sheriff's "safe church" recommendations: 1. Door locks were discussed. Mari Kuhnle volunteered to ask our insurance agent about whether or not there are minimum standards for locks required by our policy. Walter said that there is nothing of value or interest to a robber and that any damage would probably be covered by our insurance policy. 2. The Board agreed that greeters should be trained regarding best practices. 3. Arming of congregation was deemed unnecessary and not in keeping with our ethos. 4. As re the issue of a fence, Mari felt that during RE the adult to children ratio was sufficient to keep children from wandering off. Walter and Amy pointed out that the period after closing Sunday services when families are leaving is a more likely time that children might wander off. Dinorah suggested reminding parents about watching their children as they leave the building.

Financial Update: Checking account balance is \$30,584.98. Newsletter expenses have gone up. Sandra noted that the Grounds Upkeep budget has only \$130 and it is anticipated that it will need an additional \$470 for grass cutting to carry us through the coming year. Eunice suggested taking money out of building supplies to put into the Grounds Upkeep account to meet the anticipated deficit. \$22,973.07

was received in pledges for this fiscal year but \$8,080 was received before the fiscal year began; total received for this fiscal year is \$31,053.07. Dinorah said only \$25 is remaining in the Sunday Service budget for speakers but the deficit can be made up by taking from the Music sub-account which has sufficient amount to cover the projected speakers to the end of the fiscal year. Amy noted that the Compassion sub-account of Membership has a deficit; money can be moved from the high school and middle school budget to cover the deficit. Walter mentioned the issue of the roof replacement; since we are not likely to get the projected 2018-2019 budget of \$60,000 from the Annual Fund drive, it was suggested that we make a new roof as a goal from the yard sale.

Questions about monthly report: Mari reported that Rev. Gail Tapscott has volunteered to head up the adult RE. Dinorah reported on Sunday Services and she is anticipating another Sunday Service training. Gail Tapscott has volunteered to do a workshop to help members who might want to share experiences. Gail Stratton noted that some members came to the training but who, for some reason, don't show up on a regular basis at services. Re membership committee, Amy and Eunice discussed setting up a date for a new member signing ceremony; Dinorah suggested May 20th. Communications: Walter said that Kate Lechler will be working with him on the committee to bulk up our social media presence.

Child Safety: Mari reported that her committee met. The committee will be using the UUA manual on child safety as a guide. As re background checks, the committee will contact our insurance company to see if they do background checks for their policy holders. The UUA policy says that couples should be counted only as one as regards the need for two adults to be always around children; Mari's committee felt that they did not agree with that policy. Mari reported looking into getting first aid training for volunteers.

Planning for the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 6th: Eunice said that the Committee for the Larger Faith will announce that Mari Kuhnle and Amy Pearson have agreed to be our delegates for UUA; their names will be put in nomination at the Annual meeting to go to UUA. Walter moved that the selection of UUA attendees be put on the agenda, Dinorah seconded it; it passed unanimously. Eunice reported on the appraisal for the adjoining property. The property appraised at \$33,000 for the 4.4 acres; it does not include buildings since they are all transportable and so not considered when doing such appraisals. Eunice is suggesting that she present the appraisal report to Billy Smith and to encourage him to consult/seek his own appraiser. As regarding the Annual Meeting, Eunice moved that the Board ask the congregation members at the Annual Meeting to authorize the Board to pursue negotiations with Mr. Smith on a purchase price and associated arrangements. The Planning Committee would come back to the congregation for final affirmation of any purchase agreement. Motion seconded by Mari; motion carried unanimously.

Yard Sale: Walter reported that his committee agreed that August would be a good time for the sale and he has started a conversation with Wayne at the PowerHouse re using the Armory Pavilion. He has moved items from the UUCO sheds to a storage unit. He said the committee is discussing working with another organization like the Oxford Community Market, a silent auction, etc.

Clean-up: The work day is this coming Saturday. Mari will be sending out a special announcement for help. Double Decker is a competing event which may complicate matters.

Personnel Manual: With time running out during tonight's Board meeting it was agreed that a review and discussion of the proposed UUCO Personnel Manual be moved to the next month's Board meeting.

Submitted by: Marty Fino