

UUCO Board Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2017

Attendees: Marge Holland, Sandra Moss, Walter Flashka, Eunice Benton, Marty Fino, Dinorah Sapp, Amy Pearson, and Michael Jenkins

Call to Order at 6:10 PM

Board Covenant: The Board Covenant was read at the beginning of the meeting.

Appoint Process Observer: Eunice volunteered to be the observer.

Board Recommendations for Leadership Development Committee: Amy said her membership committee recommended either Carla Carr or Jason Taylor; both are willing to serve on the Leadership Committee. After general discussion among board members; Marge was directed to ask Kate Lechler if she would be willing to represent the board on this important committee.

Status of Memberships on UUCO Committees: Amy said she has four members and they will be having a meeting on Saturday. Amy, Anna, Gail Tapscott and Allen will be attending.

Sunday Service Report: Dinorah reported that a number of members have volunteered to work on Sunday Service duties. The two "Gails" will also be consultants to issues that might arise. Dinorah and her committee have a number of ideas for either changing or enhancing Sunday Services.

Communication Committee: Walter is working with Sandra on communication issues. He has not yet contacted James Church re the \$100 offer to cover his expenses for materials he purchased for UUCO, but he will be contacting him soon.

Finance Committee: Michael will be talking to Helene Berton to see if she would be willing to join the finance committee.

Committee for the Larger Faith: Amy will continue working on the committee, and Eunice, as current VP, will be serving on the committee along with Matt Pearson, Chris Sapp, Pat Miller and Marge Holland (ex-officio).

Financial Report: Current FNB balance is \$29,429.49. Sandra reported that UUCO is financially stable. Sandra is dealing with ATT to correct slow internet issues. A question was raised re the current mortgage payments. Mary Queyja is the mortgage holder. There was a balloon payment on the mortgage with Billy Smith the previous property owner and it is believed that Mary provided the funds to pay off Billy and that is why she now holds the mortgage; Eunice asked Sandra to check on the related documents. Marge had a question re reimbursement for our delegates to GA; so far Sandra has not received any expenses from the delegates. Sandra will contact the GA delegates and resolve any related issues. Eunice requested that the annual budget be amended to show that the budgeted GA funds are listed in the year that the GA money is spent.

Fund Raising: Marge will call Susie Pedigo re arrangements for volunteering at football games. Also, Sandra did a presentation on other fund-raising options. Through Barnes and Noble's Ignite program, people can donate or buy products on the site and UUCO would receive a portion of the purchase price. Sandra and Walter will gather more information re the program.

Social Justice Committee: At the last meeting the committee talked about allowing outside groups to utilize our building as one way of reaching out to the broader community. Marge will be speaking with Gail Stratton to further explore this issue.

UUCO Best Practices: Eunice and Marty met last week to discuss UUCO best practices and they submitted their preliminary findings to Marge and the Board (see attachment).

Smith Property: Marge provided an update on the issue of first right of refusal on the Billy Smith property that is abutting the current UUCO land. Gail Stratton and Pat Miller saw Billy Smith at Handy Andy's and it appeared that Billy was unsure as to what he told Greg and Marge last year. At Marge's request Larry Cox sent the original purchase contract and para 2. of the contract says UUCO does have that right. Marge suggested that we consider buying the property as soon as possible. Discussion of how to finance the purchase followed and Eunice suggested that there are various options, including an arrangement where friends of UUCO would buy the property immediately with the intent of selling it to UUCO. In the email accompanying the original purchase contract with Mr. Smith, Larry Cox advised that the agreement to give UUCO first right of refusal should be updated and made more specific. Eunice suggested a three person exploratory committee to work on this issue. Walter moved that such an exploratory committee be formed and Mike seconded the motion; it passed unanimously. Eunice, Greg Johnson and Marge Holland will be on the committee.

Sunday Services: Gail's Stratton submitted a summary of the Worship Workshop held on 7/29/2017. Dinorah was a co-leader at the workshop which was described as successful. She reported that they will be repeating the workshop in the coming year with Gail Stratton and Gail Tapscott alternating co-leadership. Dinorah said she is continuing to explore different formats for doing the parts of Sunday Service. It was also noted during this discussion that Gail Stratton said she is not charging for her role in the 7/29 workshop and did not charge for the August 6th service. Walter moved and Michael seconded the motion to thank Rev. Stratton for her generosity; the motion was unanimously approved.

RE Report: Mari was not able to attend tonight's Board meeting but she submitted a lengthy statement on the mission for UUCO RE Program. Marge asked the Board to review it and to give feedback to Mari; Board members were asked to CC all Board members with the feedback.

NEW BUSINESS

Bryan Stephenson: Marge noted that Bryan Stephenson (The Campus Read) is on campus next week.

Present Perfect event: Marge reported that Gail Stratton has suggested supporting the event called Present Perfect which is for LGBT youth who are struggling. Marge moved that UUCO donate \$25 to the event; Walter seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

2nd half of retreat in October: Eunice suggested that a "second retreat" would be desirable in order to set goals for this year. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the last half of the October Board meeting would be set aside for such a "retreat."

Help for Family in Austria: Eunice reported that a UUCO member, Blake, who now lives in Austria is helping a refugee and his family from Syria. Blake is asking if UUCO could help in funding the refugee family settlement into Austrian life. Eunice is suggesting that we ask members through the newsletter and on Sundays to make a charitable contribution. The Board agreed that it would be appropriate and good to implement Eunice's suggestions. Walter moved that a relevant announcement be made in the UUCO weekly website update and that the proceeds from the designated, weekly Sunday offering be given to Blake. The motion was seconded by Dinorah and it passed unanimously.

Charlottesville Memorial: Eunice suggested that if a vigil for Charlottesville is held that the UUCO banner be displayed at the event. Board unanimously gave consent.

Secretary's Report: The July Board meeting minutes were submitted by email to all Board members several weeks ago and no corrections were offered.

Other Issues:

Walter said that Greg last year explored using SLACK, an app that allows easy communication between small work groups. Eunice suggested that we try it. It is free. Walter will send out invitations for the Board to join the UUCO SLACK work group.

Marty raised issue of Board email votes and the need to make amendments to UUCO bylaws to make such votes legal and in compliance with State statutes re non-profit Boards..

Process comments: Eunice noted that our meeting was productive but that discussion kept "bleeding over and being chatty;" in the future we should attempt to be more focused.

Adjourned: 9:00 PM

Submitted by: Marty Fino