

February 24, 2015 UUCO Board Meeting, began at 6:35 pm

Greg Johnson, Luanne Buchanan, Carla Carr, Vicki Reithel, and Victoria Smith were in attendance at this Tapas meeting. It was a social business evening, in Dutch style.

1. We were able to cut to the chase and did not worry about an opening reading.
2. Luanne motioned we all be process observers.
3. We approved the minutes from January 24, 2015 board meeting.
4. We'll have a financial update with the next meeting.
5. We are fully staffed for the Leadership Development Committee. Just need to tell Sandra that she and Cheryl will be the resources for Susan in the fund drive.
6. Greg shared that he'd requested four volunteers to arrive on March 28 to help take down the fence. Vicki suggested that the triangular area before UU also needs tidying, and that we all be there at 9 or 9:30. All agreed that the demolition of the fence could be easy and fun.
7. We discussed also that we need a steel door instead of the front door we have currently, which is not really an outside door. Carla suggested we look at Discount on Highway 6 for a door. Greg made a note to himself about adding a few more volunteers to the volunteer list for March 28 (Carla was moved to correct his creative spelling, in her role as homeschool mom.)
8. Formation of committee to summarize cottage dinner info and find a common thread or two. Greg will do a content analysis (and retype handwritten notes) and do a content analysis of the notes to see where there are repetitions of common interests. Carla volunteered herself and Shaundi to be on this committee. April 26<sup>th</sup> will be the date to have this digested so it can be shared with the congregation.
9. Other items. Our board approved removal of the trailer—and approved that Luanne will look into how to remove it.
10. We talked about the alternative education referendum placed on the next ballot for state elections in the fall, created by state legislators and backed by our insurer, Farm Bureau. We agreed that Luanne can research finding a new insurer, because our UU values as regards public schools and the democratic process are not in close alignment with those of Farm Bureau.
11. We agreed we would thank Pat Miller for researching the sign for Standing on the Side of Love, and for keeping us connected with UUA. And thank Sandra and Mari for all they did to make the monk visit a success!
12. Paul Goggans started the nucleus of the caring committee with a meeting at his home. The meal was wonderful and the role of the committee was discussed. It's more than flowers, food and companionship, but to create the spirit of connection. Mary Queyja suggested that it be called the Joys and Concerns Grapevine. The name brought up lots of good feeling and music ideas.
13. We contributed to the Domestic Violence Project, which was closed down by the Attorney General's office. Because of this our pass-the-plate donation was returned to us. Southaven has the closest residential center. Family Crisis

- Services. is in our county to deal with victims of violence. We'll send the money to Family Crisis Services as they receive their moneys from United Way.
14. Again, Sandra Moss's research let us know a banner would cost us \$321, while a sign with a border (4 by 5 feet) would cost us \$521. While a sign with a border is more permanent, and less likely to be misplaced, the bigger banner has impact and visibility. In discussing other options, Greg brought up the idea of creating our own sign with concrete, which would cost less and would be more permanent. The imprint of hand-painted block letters (inset into the concrete background) could be painted in colors we like, with possible nature designs tailored to UU values.
  15. Carla brought up the suggestion that we have another information box put up near the front door that was not plexi-glass. The group was in accordance with this. If a new, wood information box is put up, Vicki could re-appropriate the current one for use at the Community Gardens.
  16. The topic of hiring a professional part-time person for RE came up in our discussion. We also discussed the possibility of using a yurt at the space vacated by the trailer.

Board meeting officially ended at 8:15

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Smith