

UUCO Board Retreat (Board Business portion) – July 15, 2017

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

- I. Review of Budget –
 - a. Sandra removed the category “rental” from the budget and replaced that category with “building fund donations,” which reflects our intended practice going forward of asking donations for use of our facility.
 - b. Two cost increases: Quickbooks \$10, and ATT \$10.
 - c. Mari reported that Roger Kuhnle has gathered estimates for the removal of the dead elm tree and the removal would cost approximately \$1,200. Motion was made to approve funding. Motion was made by Eunice and Michael seconded; passed unanimously.
 - d. It was noted that the expense of \$350 for guest speaker fees was from last year but is showing up in this year’s budget.
 - e. James Church paid for the domain fees for the next 5 years at a cost of \$100. Walter suggested that the Board offer to reimburse Mr. Church. Walter made the motion and Michael seconded; passed unanimously.
 - f. Marty suggested that congregants should be reminded periodically that by going to the UUCO web site and clicking on the Amazon icon any purchases then made at Amazon will lead to a contribution to UUCO.
- II. Discussion of Board Covenants
 - a. It was the unanimous consensus of the Board that the Board’s Covenant should be shared and reviewed with all UUCO committees
 - b. For Future Consideration (Bike Rack): Eunice suggested re-crafting of words in Item #1 of the UUCO Board of covenants to reflect that trustees uphold not just the interests but the “mission” statement.
- III. GA highlights and opportunities
 - a. Greg Greenway (Deeper than Skin workshop at GA) contacted Marge and offered to come to Oxford. Through music and conversation he and his partner addressed issues of race. Marge suggested that joining with other congregations/groups might be a good way of bringing him here.
 - b. Dinorah has heard of the musical group Emma’s Revolution and suggested they would also be a good group to come to UUCO. Dinorah met with members of that group at GA.
 - c. Bryan Stephenson – The Common Read for this academic year– He was also a Keynote speaker at GA. The Board would like to inform UUCO members that he will be coming in August to the Ole Miss Campus.
- IV. Mission, Congregational Covenant, Bylaws

- a. Mari suggested that we fill the Community Injustice chair, which is listed as an ad hoc committee. Eunice raised why it is an ad hoc committee and not a standing committee; she suggested that the issue be raised during the year to explore how to proceed (bike rack – issue)
- V. Additional Bike rack issues:
- a. Committee of the Larger Faith
 - b. Financial audit – Marty questioned whether or not non-profit “financial best practices” would recommend that we audit UUCO financials. Walter nominated Eunice and Marty to investigate UU best practices pertaining to financial and legal issues. Motion was made and passed unanimously. It was also suggested that Susan Zachos, UUCO member, should be asked to lend her expertise on these matters.
 - c. Policy re annual training for detection of child abuse. Marty noted that the UUCO documents refer to a training program that is used to train UUCO staff working with children however it was stated during today’s meeting that no program has been used. Mari volunteered to research safe-child training for adults.
 - d. Safe Congregation officer
 - e. Formal contracts for staff people
 - i. do we need a lawyer for contracts and for general purposes?
 - f. Service leader training – end of July
 - g. Dinorah suggested that we all read “Worship that Works”