

Board Meeting Minutes, July 19, 2015

In attendance: Greg Johnson, Shaundi Wall, Walter Flaschka, Cheryl Conlee, Carla Carr, Victoria Smith, Luanne Buchanan, Vicki Reithel, Marjorie Holland

After a luxurious repast of mostly cool summer foods, we decided to create time for a true Board meeting and address the informal agenda at hand. This part of the meeting began closer to 7 pm.

1. We had our check in, and shared the many changes each of us are facing over the coming weeks, new jobs, a new school year which will start before we meet again, and several of our Board involved in family moves. One member shared that she felt that the service earlier that Sunday was possibly a hard one for many folks.
2. Greg wanted us to know that while Pat is not able to serve as membership chair, she is happy to serve in other ways that would not involve a conflict of interest. Because Sandra has taken over many of the duties of this position, it is not as critical as it has been. When August comes, we can ask Brittany and Dan to search for a membership chair. It was also noted that the new by-laws state that partners not serve the same board term.
3. At this point, we gave retiring board members (Luanne and Shaundi) the chance to adjourn if they wished, and asked for their words of wisdom. Departing advice from Shaundi was simple: listen to one another and keep your cool. She also suggested, based on Cheryl's sharing, that there be guidelines /boundaries for ministers/speakers. Luanne took her reprieve.
4. At this point, Greg shared advised that our new board members need to do some key planning for future events and the year to come. He asked for a "reader" for our next meeting, using the book, Congregational Leadership for Anxious Times, and Cheryl Conlee volunteered to read and summarize the forward and first chapter for us at the first 2015-2016 Board meeting in August.
5. November 14-15 was decided as our Congregational retreat weekend: We were able, thanks to Vicki, to look at the Service Committee's planning schedule through fall. Seeing a potential conflict for that Sunday, with a major speaker, Julie Kain, coming from out of town, consultation with Eunice was sought. The board hoped Julie might be able to talk on the 22nd of November instead. A retreat at Wall Doxey, would require us to buy meals there, which could be supplemented by UU. We could ask Elaine what the typical costs for our food have been, when we supplement the basic fare offered by the food service at Wall Doxey. We decided to have Sandra check alternate dates, particularly October 18th (Halloween at Wall Doxey a festive popular time that would make this hard for us UU's to be able to have a private experience). It was decided that we could also ask if a more intimate and self-catered event would be possible at John Kyle State Park, instead.
6. We discussed the success of the Halloween event hosted at UU last fall, and Carla Carr agreed to be contact person for organizing it. We agreed it might

work best to hold it on the Friday night of that weekend, as Saturday will be THE big event for trick-or-treaters this year.

7. We discussed the GATP (Give away the plate). We have a gap between our costs, (47, 500) and our income (39,000). As this income always goes the charity, this takes away from our own operating budget. Cheryl will write up our policy and establish a set point for the GATP contributions and/or the number of Sundays that we have available for their collection. Cheryl's suggestion is that we set a cap to the GATP of \$1500. If we set up a donation box, for UU supplies and for some of the charities, this will make the GATP less of focus, ensuring that necessary goods that will help each charity can be collected in lieu of a GATP. We discussed other ways to make up our UU budget shortfall that could be helpful fundraisers: eg. If we encourage our members to do game-weekend rentals.
 8. Greg brought up John Schuster Memorial Hootenany as a potential fundraiser later this fall.
 9. Walter brought up Google drive for consolidating UU documents. Carla made a motion that we consolidate, so we can begin by accessing a common calendar. Margo seconded, and all were in favor.
 10. We can use a bit more input on making a decision whether to change our fiscal year to a January-December year. Greg will look into this.
 11. We set August 23 as our next board meeting, at 5:30 pm.
- Meeting adjourned around 8:30.