

UUCO Board Meeting

January 31, 2019

Attendees: Marge Holland, Eunice Benton, Brittainy Westman, Walter Flaschka, Sandra Moss, Dan Mattern, Marty Fino, and Paul Goggans.

Board Covenant: The Board read and recommitted to the UUCO Board Covenant.

Approval of Minutes: Eunice moved to accept the minutes, Brittainy seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Report from Expansion Committee: Eunice and Walter reviewed the bullet points in the letter that they prepared to Iris Tyler, Billy Smith's step-daughter and current owner of the property. Eunice suggested the letter should be a cover letter to a formal purchase offer. Eunice also suggested that the original right of first refusal document be attached to the letter. A detailed discussion of the letter ensued; Walter agreed to re-work the letter in keeping with edits from our discussion.

Financial Update: The current balance in the Mechanics Bank checking account is \$22,325.15. UUCO received \$14,140 in pledges for 2018-2019 in 2017-2018. Dan reviewed income and expenses to date and he noted that the building account has spent all the money that was budgeted, due in large part because of the unexpected expense of replacing the air conditioning system in the RE area.

Update on Request from Emma Scott to use UU Hall: Marge reported that we have not heard from Emma; Walter said he would follow-up with Emma as to where her request stands.

Update on Mississippi Cluster Meeting: Eunice reported that Gail Stratton has done an excellent job on insisting that a steering committee be formed with members from each congregation in the state.

Monthly Reports: Communication Committee – Walter volunteered to help Sandra with Quickbook issues; no other new developments to report. **Sunday Services Committee** – Dinorah Sapp in an email reported: The committee met on January 26. The committee agreed that it needs urgently to return to a format where there are not only more members, but the division of labor is shared among them. The trustee should not be the only person making decisions about services, handling budgets, liaising with musicians, providing information for newsletters, take notes during meetings, update calendar, and represent the committee at board meetings. To that end, the committee has asked the trustee to invite a potential new trustee for next fiscal year and immediately invite individual UUCO members to be part of the committee. The trustee is very grateful for the help of our consultants Rev. Tapscott and Rev. Stratton and our member Luanne Buchannan. The months of February and March are all set. More new UUCO members are volunteering to lead services (Andrew Pfrenger and Whitney/Jay Sarver).

Membership Committee -- Amy Pearson in an email reported: The membership committee met on January 14th. They discussed orientations and everyone agreed that we should have set orientation dates 2-3 times per year and they should be announced as opportunities to learn more about UU. This should generate more interest in joining. We also have made a box for the entry table on the right for ?'s about UU and suggestions. Amy informed the committee that suggestions could become problematic and if there was an issue raised she would bring it to the board. She will be using the membership consultants to help answer any UU questions that are dropped in the box, and answers will be posted on

the bulletin board above the box. In addition, a membership photo board was suggested. Also, the Membership Committee agreed that asking members for old UU magazines would make a great resource for friends of the congregation and visitors. Amy can make an announcement about the box and the magazines if that's ok with everyone. Just wanted to get some feedback about the photo board. For orientations Amy was thinking 2/24: it's 2 weeks before spring break so if we have people that want to join they can join 3/2. The next orientation being 6/22 and have a membership Sunday 6/30 and 3 weeks before thanksgiving as a suggestion. The Committee currently has 1 person interested in joining, Amy thinks this number will increase if we make the orientation appealing to the curious. Amy plans to call in for the property discussion. **Committee for the Larger Faith** -- Eunice reported in an email: that membership for the Committee for the Larger Faith has been refreshed, and will meet soon. We are still structuring the committee in terms of a clear mission and terms for members, but as of this moment these folks have agreed to be a part: Mari Kuhnle, Wendy Pfrenger, Rev. Gail Tapscott and Chris Sapp. The VP/Eunice is the convener through this year. At our upcoming meeting, Eunice expects the Committee will talk about particular roles/portfolios for the members and how we might best work to keep UUCO folks informed about the varying programs and opportunities of our UUA family — our 'larger faith'! We'll surely report out after that meeting. **Religious Education Committee**—Brittainy in an email reported: Kido is finishing up her series which currently takes place 9:30-10:30 on the first Sunday of each month at UU Hall. Gail T. is planning on taking over this time slot to teach a new series once Kido is finished. Intermediate and High School RE - These groups are planning a field trip for members who are available and interested in visiting the Civil Rights Museum in Jackson the weekend of the MS Cluster gathering. There is also talk of having a bowling night, but there is no date set because we are working out dates the interested parties would be available. Children's RE - We have started our new curriculum on world religions. In other news – Brittainy has submitted the proposed budget for RE to Dan. It is the same as last year's with an added line for professional development. Gail S. has shared some resources with Brittainy and she would like someone from UU to be able to use them if they are interested this coming year. **Leadership Development Committee:** Marge reported that Greg continues to chair that committee; Kate Lechler and Jason Taylor are also on his committee. Greg's committee continues to be on the lookout for new leaders. **Personnel Committee:** Marty reported that the Personnel committee has made further edits and will be sending out the current draft version to the Board prior to next meeting.

Other items: Cheryl Conlee has asked for contributions for the J.L. King Community Center. Discussion followed re how often and to whom UUCO should give away the plate. Dan suggested that perhaps Ms. Conlee could be asked to do a Sunday Service to tell about the work of the JL King Center; Marge will ask Dinorah if there is a Sunday slot available that would be appropriate for Ms. Conlee.

Next Board Meeting: Feb. 21st was scheduled for the next Board meeting. In the meantime, the Board plans a teleconference call to review the final purchase letter and offer on February 7. This would allow for a Congregational Meeting on Feb. 24th when the purchase offer could be presented to the UUCO members.