

UUCO Board Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2016

Newk's on University Ave.

Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Greg Johnson

Board Members present:

Michael Jenkins, Susie Pedigo, Walter Flashcka, Mari Kuhnle, Sandra Moss, Marge Holland, Dinorah Sapp

A process observer/time kept was appointed (Susie Pedigo)

Business:

Gail Stratton's letter to the UUCO Board

- . Defines relationship between UUCO and Gail
- . Holds us in covenant
- . Will be revisited periodically
- . The members of the board praised the letter for its thoroughness
- . A file will be kept and a copy will be posted on our website
- . Motion to approve the letter was passed; all agreed; Greg will sign the letter

Finances

- . "Fill the Gap" campaign
 - o Exceeded expectations
 - o One donor gave \$2,600; 3 more people contributed
 - o The board realized that we can't operate on financial "angels" and need to work on more campaigns to bring in pledges/money.
- . 20th Anniversary of UUCO
 - o Immediate and real need of funds to celebrate
- . State of Finances
 - o Good
 - o Money left over from ordination
- . Amazon purchases
 - o UUCO members will be reminded through social media, during services, and newsletter, to make holiday purchases through Amazon.

Committee Reports

- . Religious Education – Mari Kuhnle
 - o Furniture is needed; a foldable table and chairs
 - o The Board agreed and found the prices reasonable for the furniture; Greg made the motion to approve \$350 for the furniture and all members agreed.
 - o Sandra will purchase it with the UUCO credit card
 - o Mari will price-compare on Amazon
 - o There was a discussion on the tax exemption on purchases (religious affiliation); the finance committee will look into it
 - o Older children will start working on a Life Journal and will need binders
 - o There was a discussion about the older children transitioning out of the RE room into the congregation
 - o The schedule for lessons for the Spring is ready
 - o Services/childcare for Christmas and New Year's Eve is covered
- . Membership – Susie Pedigo
 - o Gail Tapscott and Susie will offer a membership class in the Spring
 - o Welcome packets will be sent to new members
 - o Gail Tapscott and Susie have been working together in identifying people who would like to join
 - o During "Membership Sunday," UUCO welcomed 7 new members on November 13.

Joys and Concerns

- . Mari and the committee are streamlining the process and will respond to needs accordingly
- . The committee is creating a Google Doc to help organize the needs

- Dinorah shared a special way of doing joys and concerns observed at the UU congregation in Los Angeles; a bowl of water and pebbles as symbols of joys or concerns

Miscellaneous items for discussion

- “Give away the plate” will happen during the Lovefeast on December 11. The Pantry will be the recipient of the money collected that day.
- A list of needed items for the Pantry will be posted on social media and the newsletter
- Retreat Goals: keep on working on the goals

Visioning Team

- Luanne and Elaine are working on Cottage Dinners for the Spring
- The board raised the issue of perhaps combining a pledge drive and the dinners; Greg will coordinate between the finance committee and the visioning team

Sunday Services

- The committee ask for funds (\$90) to purchase books for the UU Common Read
- The board discussed where the money can come from; it was agreed that they could be purchase from budget under the “Special Opportunities” fund.
- There was a discussion about the December/January services, since there are fewer people attending (out of town)

Leadership Development

- There was a discussion about the relationship between this committee and membership
- Greg will read the bylaws to check
- Leadership roles are in a two year rotation
- Some positions end in June
- A Vice-President will be needed for June
- Someone in charge of Technology/Communications will be needed in June

UU General Assembly 2017 New Orleans

- The board discussed ways to fundraise in order for members and others interested to attend
- Some members have already booked rooms
- Some members will travel by train
- There was a discussion about reaching out to the UU congregation in New Orleans to see if members could stay in people’s houses/apartments/condos
- Sandra will talk to the finance committee to see what they have planned
- Greg suggested a congregational head count to see how many people are interested in attending
- An announcement will be made by Sandra via email

UUCO 20th Anniversary Celebration

- A tentative date was set for April 2
- There was an idea to gather photos and items to show the history of the congregation
- A Sunday morning service will kick start the celebration
- There was a discussion about having a time capsule

More Miscellaneous Items

- Interfaith Potluck
 - o Dinorah shared a new initiative in town, spearheaded by Alice Ricks (former United Way member)
 - o Due to the current political climate, many people in town have expressed an interest in reaching out to the Muslim community and other like-minded groups (religious or not)
 - o There is a planning committee being formed; Professor JT Thomas (sociology, advisor NAACP chapter at UM) and Dinorah are part of it
 - o Alice Ricks would like to ask for help to plan the event and perhaps use UUCO as a space for the planning meetings or the potluck
 - o The board unanimously agreed to sponsor this initiative and to offer their space for planning and for the potluck, if the committee members see it fit.
- A raise for Andrew Gordon, pianist

- o The board discussed and approved the raise to \$5 more a month starting in January
- Susie suggested the UUCO community engages more with the older children (middle school) and approach them before and after services
- Mari would like to end her RE term before it expires; there was a discussion and suggestions on what to do to reach out to parents; the board expressed their support for all Mari is doing for RE

Meeting adjourned by Greg Johnson at 8:30 p.m.