

Meeting of the UUCNH Board of Trustees
May 8, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Ed Rockman, Amy Wilks, Rob Willig, Joyce Kepner, Lynn Richards, Dennis Doubleday, Midge Miles, Susan Powers, Rachel Smart, Randy Minnich, Bob Delaney, Mark Draa, and Andrew Zadnik (secretary)

Absent: Scott Rudolph, Greta Porter

1. Welcome and chalice lighting: Mission statement

- a. Introduction of Board Nominees: Dennis (leadership track), Joyce, Randy, and Kathy Gorka (not present)

Opening question: Board members were asked to reflect on the past year.

2. Consent agenda:

- a. Minutes of previous meeting

- b. Committee reports from liaisons:

In Greta's DLFD report, regarding the Children and Youth RE Committee, the following correction is made: Joyce is the outgoing chair and Robyn Travers is the incoming chair.

- c. Approval: It is noted that approval of the consent agenda includes approval of the location of the Peace Pole. With the noted correction, approved.

Update from Rob regarding the Buildings and Grounds Committee report: Pete and Diana have agreed to stay on for another year as co-chairs of the committee. The report was meant as a warning of what's to come regarding the buildings and grounds. The first issue is the lack of funds. There may be a clear need for a capital campaign. The other main issue is a shortage of personnel. More people are needed so that the responsibilities can be divided.

3. Budget approval for annual meeting submission: Mary Ellen Johnson

Mary Ellen provided an update on the budget. She noted that the budget presented is a balanced budget. Thanks were expressed to the committees that responded to the request to adjust their budgets. The budgetary actions proposed at the last meeting were implemented, including the addition of half a year's rent for the little house and doubling the amount of endowment taken for the year. The budget including the proposed salary increases and increase in time for the office administrator. However, there was nothing to put into the Buildings and Grounds Reserve Fund this year. There also remains the question of how much health insurance costs will go up. It was important to note that the church is essentially "just scraping by" in terms of funding. Those responsible for developing the budget are doing everything they can so the church can do what is needed.

Amy will follow up with Bellwood about the church's request for more funds this year.

*A motion was made for the Board to propose a budget and submit it to the church members for their approval at the annual congregational meeting. Motion by Midge, second by Susan. Approved.

4. Little house update – Kurt Kuntz

A company was hired to complete a formal building inspection. The inspection occurred on April 30, and Kurt received the report just prior to the meeting. The report described many improvements that are needed if the church plans to rent the house.

There was a question about whether the investment in repairs is worth it, although there also would be a cost to remove the house. There's also an interest in having someone living on-site.

Kurt will review the major items of repair listed in the little house home inspection report, consider what the priorities are, develop cost estimates, and present at the July meeting, if not before. He also will look into the cost of demolition (rough estimate \$8,000-\$12,000).

5. Threshold Congregation Team report – Chris Hill and Brian Lupert-Hill

Chris provided an update on the report. The report is broken into 3 sections: 1) What we want to preserve and enhance; 2) What we would like for the future, inside and outside the church; and 3) The charge to the congregation.

Right now, the report is meant to be presented to the church as a draft vision. The intent is that this draft will be finalized and approved by the congregation at the mid-year meeting, and then be revised into a strategic plan.

Based on the visioning process conducted by church members, there was a desire for the community and small groups to be enhanced. There also was a request for more activities: e.g., art shows and music concerts, as well as an increase in social action.

It was noted that the Threshold Congregation Team felt a lack of support and guidance from CERG (Central-East Regional Group). For instance, there were few example questions provided for use during the visioning process.

6. Charge, Authority, and Responsibility – Midge

The following CAR documents were presented for approval:

- Sunday Services Team (presented by Rachel). Edits and revisions were made. The report is approved contingent on the Sunday Services Committee accepting changes.
- Children and Youth Faith Development Team (presented by Lynn).
- Adult Faith Development Team (presented by Lynn).
- Childcare Coordinator (presented by Lynn). Discussed and revised.

Other CAR documents presented last month have been edited as discussed.

*A motion was made to approve the 17 documents that have been brought to the Board. Motion by Mark; second by Rachel. Approved.

Midge expressed appreciation of the CAR Task Force: Rob, Rachel, and Lynn.

7. Policy Task Force – Mark

Mark provided an update on new policies.

- Coffee Hour Policy: With coffee hour currently in flux, it was suggested that the policy be withdrawn or held. *A motion was made to withdraw the current Coffee Hour Policy. Motion by Susan; second by Amy. Approved.
- Buildings and Grounds Reserve Fund Policy: *A motion was made that the Buildings and Grounds Reserve Fund Policy be adopted. Motion by Midge; second by Rob. Approved.

Mark will distribute by email the Bonfire Policy for electronic approval.

8. Annual meeting – May 18

The group discussed the upcoming annual congregational meeting.

- a. Recognition of outstanding service. Trustees provided names of members to be recognized at the meeting. It was suggested that small gifts be presented, rather than certificates.
- b. Judges of elections. Departing members of the Board will serve as judges of the elections.
- c. The task forces will present brief oral reports to supplement the written reports.

9. President's closing remarks - Ed

Ed thanked all members of the Board. Special thanks went to departing members: Susan, Midge, Amy, and Rob. Ed hopes they will stay involved.

Thanks went to Midge, Mark, and Scott for establishing the Executive Committee.

Thanks went to Amy and Lynn for helping with the review of the minister.

Ed reviewed the many accomplishments of the year and commended the group for completing so much.

The group thanked Ed.

Thanks went to Andrew for his work as Secretary.

*A motion was made to adjourn to Board Huddle. Board nominees were invited to stay. Motion by Midge; second by Rob. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Action items:

- **Amy will follow up with Bellwood about the church's request for more funds this year.**
- **Kurt will review the major items of repair listed in the little house home inspection report, consider what the priorities are, develop cost estimates, and present at the July meeting, if not before. He also will look into the cost of demolition (rough estimate \$8,000-\$12,000).**
- **Mark will distribute by email the Bonfire Policy for electronic approval.**

Respectfully submitted by Andrew Zadnik