

## **UUCSV Council on Committees (CoC)**

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Joe Schad, UUCSV Board Vice-President, presiding

Joe Schad opened the meeting by thanking the committees for their annual reports and reading the CoC's mission statement.

Attendees were Joe Schad, Michele Worthing, Joe Farruggia, Robert Gettings, Karin Gettings, Norma Riley, Jack Hurt, Holly Hewlett, Heather Peppersack, Peggy Maio, Joe Maio, Tammy Bjelland, Mark Lore, Zelda Zadnik, Owen Lowe, Liz England, Bob Hurt, Stewart Brown and Judy Miller.

Absent: Lifespan Faith Development (LFD) and Communications

### **Committee and Task Force Reports**

#### **Socials and Sharing Suppers Committee**

Heather Peppersack, Chairman, announced tentative dates for the following events:

- Congregational Picnic, September 8, 2013
- Oktoberfest, October 12, 2013 or October 26, 2013
- Thanksgiving Dinner, November 28, 2013
- Yuletide Dinner, December 21, 2013
- Chili Cook-off, January 18, 2014
- Heart to Heart, February 15, 2014
- Casino Night, March 15, 2014

#### **Auction Task Force**

Holly Hewlett, Chairman, announced that there would be an Icebreaker Informational meeting on October 13, 2013 to plan next year's Auction. Recent newcomers to our congregation will be asked to be Auction volunteers.

#### **Stewardship Committee**

Mark Lore, Chairman, reported that pledges for the FY 2014 campaign totaled \$214,991. The median pledge level increased by 25% from \$1,200 to \$1,500, and 87% of pledges came from members. Mark noted that an invigorated congregation, Rev. Paul Britner's ideas from his past experience, and the decision to hire a full-time Director of Religious Education (DRE) were major forces in the success of the pledge drive. Mark stated that he had an excellent committee and that goals for FY 2014-15 are to discuss financial obligations with those who had not pledged, persuade all church members to pledge, and encourage more non-members to pledge.

#### **Worship Committee**

Joe Farruggia, Chairman, stated that there would be a Worship Committee meeting with Rev. Paul later this month to plan fall sermon topics and church services from the sermon cards received from congregants, and to discuss ideas for lay-led services. In August the committee will continue with their regular second Sunday meetings.

The committee is preparing guidelines and Joe F. has been charged to develop ideas for all the various things the Worship committee does. The committee charter has been approved by the Board, and guidelines for guest speakers

have been completed. Joe F. will email the documents to the CoC for comments. This is Joe F.'s third and last year as chairman.

New volunteers are often overwhelmed by the numerous duties of the committee. To help with this problem an "UU Worship Traditions" class is being planned through LFD. The class will highlight what worship means in the UU community, inform potential volunteers, and help the church community to understand what the worship committee does.

The Esthetics Committee will reconvene in late August. Any suggestions or ideas may be emailed to Joe F. or Rev. Paul. Mark Lore suggested that he would like year-round stewardship to be incorporated.

### **Endowment Fund Committee (EFC)**

Joe Maio, FY 2013-2014 EFC Chairman, stated that the committee is in transition since Mark Lore is leaving. This year's goal for the committee is to provide more detail about the criteria for the EF grant applications. Joe M. said that he is looking forward to returning to the committee.

Mark Lore, FY 2012-2013 EFC Chairman, reported that there were five grant fund requests this year. \$3,700 is the total 2013 grant amount approved by the Board. Three of the five grants were selected as most appropriated to receive funds, and the EFC will recommend that the Board approve the three grants at its July 17, 2013, meeting.

1. The Communications Committee's grant application of \$2,000 was for purchase of video-conferencing, webcasting, and teleconferencing equipment. The EFC will suggest to the Board that the initial request focus on video-telecasting. Dixie Wiles, who has work experience in this type of project, would be the EFC Project Manager. Holly Hewlett remarked that it may be easier to recruit RE volunteers, because at this time they miss 22 Sunday services each year and video-telecasting would allow the volunteers to watch services at a later date.
2. The Worship Committee's grant application request of \$605 proposed the installation of museum quality railings for the sanctuary. The railings would be placed on the walls between the light alcoves and on the blue wall to hang artistic and informational displays. The EFC will recommend to the Board that the \$605 request be approved.
3. The Narthex Task Force's grant proposal of \$745 was for the creation of a large, customized wooden welcome sign crafted by church member Jon Rose. The sign would enhance the visitor table and narthex area.

The two proposals not recommended were for increased storage in the RE program and for purchase of serving pieces for large group functions at the church. Currently, an overall storage plan is being developed, which will include storage for the RE wing. The EFC decided that the funding of the purchase of service pieces should be through donations or an expense of the operating budget, and they suggested that a review of equipping and security of the kitchen be done.

### **Grounds Committee**

Judy Miller, Co-Chairman, announced that Rev. Paul has asked that the trails to the Van Cluse parking lot be cleared by September 8. In discussing the deadline, the Committee is unsure if that goal can be accomplished by that time. The Co-Chairmen will discuss the problems of poison ivy, lack of equipment and volunteers with Paul when he returns. A couple has been approached about heading a task force to clear the trails, but they have not made their decision.

Judy reported that Gary Fillmore delivered two loads of free mulch from Fairfax County and that approximately 15 people had assisted in spreading the mulch. As an alternative for opening the Van Cluse parking lot, Judy and Co-Chairman Stewart Brown are obtaining an estimate for striping the parking lot from Brian Smith, who has striped our lot before. It appears that striping the entire lot this year may not be feasible financially, and that if approved by the Board it might be necessary to divide the project over several years. More volunteers are needed to assist in the grounds maintenance.

Peggy Maio, a Master Gardner, suggested rehabilitation and maintenance of "Henry's Garden" would be an excellent gardening and learning project for the youth. Peggy, Judy and Stewart will discuss this with Coreen "Cory" Ness, Director of Religious Education (DRE), and Carmela Crawford, Religious Education (RE) Chairman.

### **Green Sanctuary Task Force (GSTF)**

Peggy Maio, GSTF member, discussed the UUA GS program, which may be reviewed on line at the UUA website, [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org). The process for GS accreditation includes the development of an action plan and 12 projects will be required to be completed. GSTF will help organize and facilitate the program. The congregation, worship services, RE, outreach and personal practices will be involved. A task force member or liaison from each committee will also be needed. The program will take one or two years to obtain accreditation and continuing activities will be required to maintain the following years.

Joe Maio, also a GSTF member, discussed the requirement of an environmental assessment for the GS program. A free energy audit was conducted by a Rappahannock Electric Cooperative worker on his personal time, and many of his suggested changes have been made as a result of that audit.

### **Finance Committee (FC)**

Joe Maio, FC member, stated that there are two new FC members, Willie Hayes and Teri Merrill, who have been asked to be the FY 2013-2014 FC Co-Chairmen. There is another prospective FC adult member and Holly Hewlett has asked that a youth attend FC meetings.

### **Newcomers Committee (NC)**

Zelda Zadnick, NC Chairman, reported that there were two new volunteers/greeters, Joanne Leonardis and Katie Pitcock. In the near future, there may be roving greeters to assist in welcoming guests and members. Sixteen people referred friends, family and colleagues to our church and Amy Fielder will send thank you cards to the referrers.

Gina Rezabek will hold an UU new-member orientation October 5, 2013. Zelda and Norma Riley will do cross training with RE, ushers and greeters about "What a Greeter Does" and update them on the new guidelines.

A potluck for greeters, ushers, and RE superintendents will be held in the near future. Rev. Paul will lead the discussion "How to Repel Visitors." The UUA website has more information about this topic.

Zelda announced that hard copies of the Church directory are available at the visitor's table and that Amber Rezabek is a new NC member.

### **Other**

Katie Mack reported that Rev. Paul had asked that currently scheduled event dates be considered tentative until he returns to set his schedule on July 15, 2013.

Katie introduced the three new board members, Liz England, Owen Lowe, and Joe Schad. The Church Treasurer and Board Secretary will not be Board members in FY 2013-14. Bob Gettings will continue as Treasurer and will work with the Finance and Endowment Fund Committees. A Secretary will be announced at a later date. The Board retreat will be August 23-24, 2013. The August Board meeting will be on August 28, 2013. Board meetings will resume their third Wednesday schedule in September 2013. There will be changes on how the Board conducts meetings this year.

Katie also announced that DRE Cory Ness and her daughter will be at Sunday services on July 14, 2013. Cory will live in Winchester near the intersection of I-81 and Route 7 during the week.

Norma Riley announced that the Right Relations Task Force has been dissolved; its work having been completed.

Treasurer Bob Gettings reported that fourth quarter pledge statements will be mailed next week. At the next CoC meeting Bob G. will talk about how to manage committee budgets. The church ended FY 2012-2013 in the red and it will be necessary to take funds from reserves. Heather suggested that statements be emailed. Bob G. said that the problem with email is that it would require making another list.

Tammy Bjelland, Social Action and Justice Co-Chairman, said that the Church's Twitter account was last updated in 2012 and that Brandi Ferrebee, the former Twitter manager, had moved and left the church. Tammy will contact John Elrick about the Twitter account and about organizing and uploading CoC meeting papers to Drop Box or Google Cloud in order to have documents in a central place.

Joe S. said that the Yard Sale will need more volunteers because the cleanup has to be done by 5 p.m., as another event is scheduled in the evening. He also stated that the latest Church directory is not on the UUCSV website.

**Other Scheduled Events:**

- Board Meeting, July 17, 2013
- Auction, August 10, 2013
- Water Ceremony, August 18, 2013
- Board Retreat, August 23-24, 2013
- Board Meeting, August 28, 2013
- New Member Orientation, October 5, 2013
- Grounds Workday, October 12, 2013
- Auction Icebreaker Informational Meeting, October 13, 2013
- Holiday Bazaar, December 7, 2013
- Holiday Decorating, December 14, 2013
- Auction, April 12, 2014
- Grounds Workday, April 26, 2014

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy V. Miller