

UUCSV Council on Committees (CoC)
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Shenandoah Valley Sanctuary
Wednesday, January 8, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Joe Schad, UUCSV Board Vice-President, presiding

Joe Schad began the meeting with a brief “check in” by attendees and the reading of “The CoC Promises.”

Attendees were Paul Britner, Joe Schad, Teri Merrill, Willy Hayes, Zelda Zadnik, Heather Peppersack, Ken Goodwin, Ann Cross, Owen Lowe, Robert Hurt, Norma Riley, Karin Gettings, Robert Gettings, Robert Hurt, Jack Hurt, Joe Farruggia, Kelsey Wilkes, Judy Miller and Jeremy Fox.

Board Members Attending: Joe Schad, Ann Cross, and Owen Lowe

The December meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

UUCSV Board of Directors

UUCSV Board Vice-President – Joe Schad

Joe asked that CoC members notify him if their committee has a draft charter update for the next meeting. Due to computer problems, Joe was unable to transmit email attachments for this meeting. He will email everyone the documents when the problem is corrected. Joe stated that Elaine Lederman is continuing to work on the rental facility brochure. He asked that any comments about the safe congregation policy be emailed to him. Joe added that there will be many committee vacancies at the end of FY 2014.

Joe updated the group on December’s Board meeting. He said that the Yard Sale charter, CoC charter and the inclement weather policy have been approved by the Board. Bob Gettings then discussed other working plans and the policy about reserve funds. The Board will deal with the procedures and policies in the involvement of finance with all committees. These policies will help future leadership to comply with church procedures.

Joe reminded attendees to be certain to lock the “shabin” door and all church doors after events. A recent occurrence of an unlocked door allowed a fox to enter the sanctuary.

Ann Cross – UUCSV Board member

Ann will take safe congregation policy changes to the Board next week. She also updated CoC members about the background checks and the request for three references for staff and R. E. volunteers, which will be implemented by Cory Ness, R. E. Director.

Paul clarified the various types of background checks. Paid staff will have a criminal background check, and teachers and others who work with children will have a sex offender check for all states in which they have lived during the last 7 years.

UUSCV Board Member - Owen Lowe

Owen will contact various committees about the 5-year plan. (At the December meeting, Owen had asked that CoC members review the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2014-2019, which he emailed on December 12. Committee assignments will be finalized early next year and a date will be set for a goal-setting workshop.)

Minister's Report

Minister's Report - Paul Britner

Paul discussed the inclement weather policy. He stated that the policy has been approved by the Board and has been posted on the UUSCV website. Cory will be doing the Message for All Ages in future Sunday services. Cory will be the "point person" for worship services, and Administrator Carol Melby will email those volunteers who have Sunday services duties each Wednesday. The current membership total is 171 and is up from last year's total of 156.

A calendar-planning retreat will be held on April 19. Every committee should have a representative there. There will be a special theme for each month in FY 2015

Committees and Task Forces

Building Committee – Robert Hurt

Robert stated that the Personnel Committee will meet on Thursday morning, January 9, and will discuss merit raises. Roofers are scheduled to repair the roof when the weather improves. Robert reminded attendees that there is a storage unit offsite that can be used to free up space for day-to-day items.

Robert also handed out copies of the About Day Activities Program Team (ADAPT) and the Arc of Northern Shenandoah Electronics Recycle Event on January 18, 9 a.m. – 1p.m. Recyclable items may be taken to ADAPT or brought to the church and given to Robert.

Grounds and Endowment Committees – Judy Miller

The Grounds Committee will meet on Sunday, January 19, 9:30 a.m., to plan maintenance for current landscaping, future landscaping and new projects.

Note: The Endowment Committee is reviewing procedures for the Douglas Adams Grants. After mid-January the Committee will ask the Board to approve the amount of funds available for grants in the Spring.

Social Action and Justice (SAJ) Committee - Kelsey Wilkes

A discussion revolved around who may nominate a “share the plate” recipient. It was agreed by attendees that nominees may come from any source. The SAJ Committee will decide if nominated organizations will meet UUCSV criteria.

On “Pride Sunday,” June 29, SAJ will conduct the lay led service. SAJ is considering selling T-shirts with the slogan “Standing on the Side of Love,” which encourages people to harness love’s power to stop oppression. “The Thirty Days of Love” campaign endorsed by the UUA, January 18 - February 16, 2014, will support LBGT, anti-bullying and immigration reform. This period of intentional action, service, education, and reflection will focus on the spiritual journey for social justice.

Membership Committee – Karin Gettings

The committee will have a meeting on Friday, January 10. There will be a “guest chat” for newcomers after Sunday services on January 12. The next UU Orientation will be on Saturday, February 1.

Jeremy Fox – Religious Education Committee

A panel discussion about UU parenting will be held on February 2 during the Sunday service. The Committee has been discussing potential short-term goals.

Socials and Sharing Suppers Committee - Heather Peppersack

Heather passed out copies of the committee charter to attendees and reviewed it with the CoC attendees. Future events include “Heart to Heart” on February 15; “Pot of Gold” Casino Night, March 15; and Chili Cook-off, May 16. “Heart to Heart” and the Casino Night will be adult events.

Nominating and Newcomers Committees - Zelda Zadnik

There was no Nominating Committee report. On January 22 the Newcomers Committee will hold a meeting. They are working with John Elrick to do a mass email to inform frequent visitors about upcoming events. Zelda stated that she has been on the Newcomers Committee for three years and will complete her term at the end of FY 2014.

Lifespan Development (LFD) Committee – Ken Goodwin

The LFD 2014 Spring brochure is being drafted. The first 2014 event will be the Vegan/Vegetarian Potluck on Sunday, January 12. A “Sustainable Living” class will be led by Katie Mack on Mondays from January 27 through March 10.

Stewardship Committee – Mark Lore (absent – report via email to Joe Schad)

The Pledge Drive will be February 16 - March 30 and will be run largely on last year's model. Stewardship met January 5 to organize for the drive. They will partner with the Membership Committee to review responses from our ~50% poll of pledge units," on what people most like about the church.

Magic Lantern Theatre will show the documentary film, "The House I Live In" at the church on the evening of March 7 and at Handley Library the afternoon of March 15. The film concerns the Drug War, the "Prison-Industrial Complex" and their adverse effects on American black youth. Mark suggests that SAJ co-sponsor and will also be talking with the NAACP and the Coalition for Racial Unity about co-sponsorship.

UUCSV 2014 Events

- Personnel Committee Meeting, January 9
- Membership Committee Meeting, January 10
- Vegan/Vegetarian Potluck, January 12
- Updated and new Committee and Task Force Charters due, January 15
- Board Meeting, January 15
- Grounds Committee Meeting, January 19
- Newcomers Committee, January 22
- "Sustainable Living," January 27 – March 10
- UU Orientation, February 1
- Panel Discussion on "UU Parenting," February 2
- "Heart to Heart," February 15 (Adults Only)
- Pledge Drive, February 16 – March 30
- Magic Lantern Theatre presents the "Prison- Industrial Complex,"- March 7
- Green Ladies Clothing and Accessories Swap, March 15
- Pot of Gold Casino Night, March 15 (Adults Only)
- Auction, April 12
- Calendar Planning Retreat, April 19
- Grounds Workday, April 26
- Updated and new Committee and Task Force policies and procedures due May 1
- "Thirty Days of Love," January 18 – February 16
- "Pride" Sunday, June 29

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy V. Miller