

UUCSV BOARD MEETING

UUCSV Library

Aug 16, 2017

Members Present:

All current and outgoing board members were present. This includes:

Monica Singh-Smith	President
Jim Peters	Vice President
Mark Lore	Treasurer
Bruce Bryant	Secretary
Sandra Henry-Stocker	Recorder
Salvatore Vasta	Outgoing Treasurer
Amy Fielder	
Dottie Cox	
Rev Russ Savage	

Members Absent: None

Guests: None

Acitivities:

At 6:40 PM, the meeting was called to order by Monica Singh-Smith. The chalice was lit and members read the promises. Members conducted a brief check-in.

The **Minister's report** had been sent prior to the meeting and there were no questions.

The **Minutes** from the July meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Mark moved that they be approved and Jim seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously. It was agreed that Sandra will continue taking notes and send drafts to all board members while board member corrections will be sent to Bruce.

New Business:

The **Financial Report** for May-June 2017 (distributed prior to the meeting) and the fiscal year-end report were discussed prior to the meeting by Sal. Sal pointed out that weekly collections as a measure of member attitudes toward the church are promising.

The **Refugee Project** with First Presbyterians was discussed. The two churches will be forming a covenant regarding what each of the churches will be doing. Mark is documenting the project, looking into the core groups, infrastructure, housing and employment possibilities, required documents, sensitivities and transportation needs. The effort will involve more than just the Social Action and Justice committee. As a complex undertaking, he expects 12-15 people will eventually be involved in this effort. We are not yet sure when anything concrete

will happen. First Pres is a much larger church and will probably provide most of the labor. The board will have to sell the project to the congregation at some point.

Dottie brought up the idea of **recognizing the good works** of various church members. The intent is to show appreciation for many who put a lot of effort into making UUCSV successful while not causing others to feel unappreciated. Five church members were selected for the first round of recognition and five board members volunteered to write thank you notes to them on behalf of the board.

A **request for a concert** was briefly discussed. Jim Peters is evaluating it.

Unfinished Business:

Monica and Sandra briefly brought up the issue of dealing with **old hardcopy church files**. This topic was quickly expanded into dealing with both hardcopy and electronic files. Monica and Sandra will follow up by discussing the topic with the Data Group. The initial goal will be to nail down the objective – how we would like the documents to be organized and named so that they are most accessible and useful. The expectation is that many if not most paper documents will be scanned and stored electronically. Best practices for document management need to be developed going forward.

Jim brought up the topic of **Board Liaison Roles** expanding the topic to consider the board's responsibilities to staff, policies and accountability. The intent is not to micromanage, but only to be sure that things get done, that committee conflicts not become a problem and that each committee has a chair. Bruce is providing oversight to Governance and Ministry. Russ is taking over Worship for now (though having the minister in this position would not be a good long-term option). CoC will be discussed at the board retreat. Monica is hosting a cottage meeting on October 5th.

The topic of **bylaws edits** was tabled for a future meeting.

Our **preparation for the Board Retreat** was discussed. Last year's topics were healing and unification, communication, process and ministry. We have made progress on the first three, particularly the first. This year will focus on preparing for a new settled minister and continue looking at church health and growth.

The board also discussed the process for getting a new minister – what might work and what's flawed. It is clear that we have to be better prepared to address issues that weren't handled well in the past. Russ will be involved in this process since he has been effective at bringing so much trust back to us.

Board members were reminded to have read Chapters 1-5 in the book “Governance and Ministry” prior to the Board Retreat. The retreat is scheduled for August 30th and 31st from 6-9:30 PM at Westminster.

Topics for Night #1: Board Covenant, readings from “Governance and Ministry”, and soft skills.
Topics for Night #2: Communications and growth, trust, and right relations.

The **Board Picnic** is scheduled for Sept 24th.

Adjourn

Motion: At 9:27 PM, hearing no objections, Monica Singh-Smith adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Henry-Stocker, recorder