

UUCSV BOARD MEETING

UUCSV Sanctuary
September 20, 2017

Members Present:

All but one of the current board members were present. This includes:

Monica Singh-Smith President
Jim Peters Vice President
Mark Lore Treasurer
Sandra Henry-Stocker Recorder
Amy Fielder
Dottie Cox
Rev Russ Savage

Members Absent: Bruce Bryant, Secretary

Guests: Cal Allen

Activities:

Call to order was issued at 6:42. The lighting of the chalice was replaced by a call to ice cream (utilizing leftovers from Sunday's after-service snacks).

The **Minister's report** was sent prior to the meeting and there were no question.

The **Minutes** from the prior meeting were sent prior to meeting and were approved without a vote or any objections. The **Treasurer's Report** was also distributed prior to the meeting and was noted; it showed no significant developments.

New Business:

Suggestions were proposed that we:

- 1) Record action items and decisions made during monthly meetings and follow up on them during the next meeting to be sure they are being acted on.
- 2) Cut down on the paperwork distributed/printed prior to meetings (e.g., detailed treasurers' reports).
- 3) Ensure that board members understand the key indicators from the financial reports so that we can use them intelligently without getting bogged down in the details.

Issues discussed included:

I. Covenant proposal with First Presbyterian for refugee resettlement project: According to Mark, everyone is on board. A move was made that we accept the draft proposal. Mark moved. Jim seconded. Russ expressed our shared excitement. An important caveat was discussed – that this program be kept low-key with respect to external publicity and that we inform the congregation about this as we promote the program internally. This is a significant program and will require congregational support and volunteers.

II. Committees need to prepare annual reports for church year 2016-17, if not already done as part of the ministerial search. Jim and Monica attended the last CoC meeting and brought up charters and policy review

by the Board. Jim will review template for charters and give most current charters to committee chairs, or review and updating.

III. **Recognition of volunteers** was well received and some recipients have provided feedback – for example, wanting the recognition to be more public. Ideas for how to do this were discussed. These included adding something to our newsletters or putting a “Deeds well done” notebook in the Narthex. Several other candidates for recognition were also mentioned. Some concern was expressed that church members might feel left out if their efforts are not included. Encouraging others in the congregation to suggest candidates for recognition might help.

IV. The **Ministerial Letter of Agreement** was read and discussed in detail with Cal Allen carefully explaining what sections were “boiler plate” and which were crafted with care to ensure that our needs and concerns were addressed. He also pointed out – and suggested that this be pointed out to the congregation when they are shown this document – that the agreement is still negotiable and that any ministerial candidate will have an opportunity to negotiate changes. Considerable focus was placed on shared leadership, the chair of the CoC, and the new minister’s role as head of ministry (and what that means). Suggested revisions should be sent to Cal soon so he can incorporate them for further Board consideration before approval. .

V. The **Coffee with the Board** is likely going to organized more as a town hall meeting with more formal conversation, closing the door on who we were and moving ahead with more strength and optimism. We are scheduling this for Oct 8th from 12:30-1:30 PM.

VI. We also briefly discussed the **Sunday announcements**. When submitted announcements are too long, the welcomer will be expected to edit them down. No spoken announcements will be allowed except by the welcomer and, if too many announcements are submitted, some may be dropped.

Next month’s meeting should focus on policy and charter review, the Hotchkiss book and our key takeaways (particularly on the role of the board), approving the ministerial agreement after we have each had a chance to do a detailed review, and setting up a solid foundation for how we run the church before our new minister shows up. Key takeaways for Chapters 4,5 and 6 sholkl d be sent to Jim for compilation.

Tasks List:

See New Business 1-3

Refugee resettlement covenant to be discussed with congregation – Mark

Committee annual reports and revised charters must be prepared – committee chairs

Follow-through on plans for more public recognition of volunteers – Dotty?

Detailed review of new ministerial agreement by board members – all board members

Presentation of new ministerial letter of agreement to congregation – Jim?

Town hall meeting with the board

Adherence to new Sunday announcement constraints – Welcome volunteers

Adjourn

At 8:57 PM, hearing no objections, Monica Singh-Smith adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Henry-Stocker, recorder