

Minutes of the UUFCC Board Meeting

December 11, 2007

Revised and Approved Jan. 15, 2008

Motions Passed

That the Board approve the Steering Committee's proposal for meeting our short-term space needs and present the proposal for a vote at the all-congregation meeting on Jan. 20th. (See paragraph 10.d.)

Lois Durran called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Lois Durran, Marian Dornell, Mark Hayes, Andy Lau, Bob Newnham, Wayne Osgood, Paula Ralph, Ken Riznyk, John Schmidt, Jean Wiant, Arian Zarkower and were present. Laura Brown from the Membership Committee was also present.

1. ***Chalice lighting & sharings.*** Lois Durran asked Board members to share their thoughts on, "What signs of movement or growth have you noticed at the Fellowship recently?"
2. ***Approval of the minutes.*** The minutes from the November 13, 2007 Board meeting were approved with several corrections. John Schmidt made the motion to approve; Marian Dornell seconded. The motion carried.
3. ***Minister's report.*** Mark Hayes sent out a written report prior to the meeting.
4. ***Director of Lifespan Religious Education report.*** Jean Wiant submitted a written report prior to the meeting.
5. ***Music Director's report.*** Matt Travis submitted a written report prior to the meeting.
6. ***Treasurer's report.*** Ken Riznyk distributed a budget report prior to the meeting. At the halfway point in the fiscal year we have collected a little less than half of pledge monies.
7. ***Trustee liaison areas.*** No reports this month.
8. ***Program Council.*** John Schmidt sent out the minutes from the Nov. 20, 2007 Program Council meeting prior to the meeting.
9. ***Leadership Training Module*** – Lois Durran facilitated a leadership training module on "biting off only what you can chew."
10. ***New Business.***
 - a. ***Personnel Policies update.*** Maureen Volz is in the process of updating and formatting staff job descriptions, as well as drafting policies and procedures related to employment at the UUFCC. The Board will be able to review these in the next month or so.
 - b. ***Board job descriptions.*** John Schmidt asked that Board members help to draft job descriptions for Board positions. He passed out a job description for Financial Secretary as a template to use. Board members were asked to bring their job descriptions to the next Board meeting.
 - c. ***Proposed By-law changes.*** Laura Brown (Membership Committee) distributed a draft of proposed changes to By-law 3 on Membership. The Membership Committee will be soliciting feedback on the proposed changes at the congregational meeting on Jan. 20th, then after making

revisions, they plan to present a final draft at the Annual Meeting in May. The primary focus of the proposed changes is making it easier to gather and maintain membership information. The proposed changes would create three membership options: Voting Members, Student Members and Emeritus Members. Dues to the UUA would be paid only for voting members of the congregation. All three types of members would be asked to fill out a Membership Data and Financial Commitment form each year in order to facilitate updating our database. Student members (full-time students) would not be expected to make a financial contribution to the annual budget drive. The Committee has some remaining questions concerning the age limit for becoming a Voting Member. There may be a legal age limit in Pennsylvania for voting on church financial matters. Paula Ralph agreed to consult with our legal advisor, Mac Rayback, about this.

- d. ***Report from the Steering Committee.*** Lois Durran gave a verbal report on the progress of the small group meetings that have been held throughout November and December to discuss short term solutions to meeting our space needs. There have been 13 meetings altogether, with 62 people participating. Lois said the overall consensus at the meetings was to not spend any money (on rent or temporary structures) until we are ready to begin a building expansion. After reviewing all of the input from the town meeting discussions, the Steering Committee has decided to recommend a revised version of the “splitting RE class times” short term solution. In this proposal there would be one service from 10am - 11am, during which the K-8 RE classes would meet. Then at 11:30am, there would be an Adult Forum in the Sanctuary and an RE class for the High School Youth. There would also be supervision for children at this time. A Social “Hour” would be held between the service and Adult Forum, but those not attending the Adult Forum could continue socializing in the Social Room. Bob Newnham moved **that the Board approve the Steering Committee proposal for meeting our short-term space needs and present the proposal for a vote at the all congregation meeting on Jan. 20th.** Ken Riznyk seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The Steering Committee also discussed one possible “medium term” solution to meeting our space needs - donating a portion of our land on which Habitat for Humanity would build a house, which we would use in the short term until a building expansion has been completed, then turn over to a Habitat home owner. The Committee will be seeking discussion and input on medium and long term solutions to our space needs between now and the Annual Meeting in May. At that meeting members will be asked to vote on whether to begin a building expansion capital campaign with the spring 2009 budget drive.
- e. ***Discussion of choices regarding the UUFCC piano.*** A task force of musicians within the Fellowship has done extensive research on various options for refurbishing our piano. A written summary of the evaluations and recommendations for repairs given by many piano technicians in the

area (most of them ranging in cost from about \$2,000 to \$8,000) was presented for the Board's review. The piano task force will be discussing the options presented over the next month or so, and then will bring a proposal to the Board. Many Board members felt it would also be helpful to hear the task force's views on the many functions the piano serves (or might serve in the future) in Fellowship and community life, and the relative importance of each to our mission.

- f. ***Peace vigil.*** Bob Newnham invited all members and friends of the Fellowship to join a special UUFCC presence at the peace vigil in downtown State College, 1:30-2:30pm Saturday, Dec. 15th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Ralph

Upcoming important dates

January Board meeting

Jan. 15 (Note: this is the **3rd Tuesday**)

Program Council meeting

Jan. TBA

Frankie Price Stern visit

Jan. 12-13, Feb. 15-17

Annual Meeting

May 18