

## UUCS Board of Directors Meeting

### Attending:

Lynn Cardiff  
Benjahmin Boschee  
Gloria Holland  
Robin LaMonte  
Richard Davis (Ex Officio)  
Monica Jacobson (Ex Officio)  
Joel Woodman  
JP Batmale  
Susan Farris-Gosser  
Joanne Manson  
Cherryl Ramirez  
John Prohodsky

### Staff:

Samantha Scales

### Visitors:

None

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

### Chalice Lighting & Centering Thoughts:

The chalice was lit and centering thoughts were provided.

### Housekeeping:

The Board congratulated JP on the success of the auction. Over \$6,700 was deposited.

Lynn discussed where to set up for the Board and retreat meetings. There was discussion that the Board should meet in the fellowship hall and if that is not available then the Board should meet in the High School room. A meeting room location could be difficult for the retreat since the homeless families with the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network are staying in the church during the retreat.

Lynn noted that the Board is responsible for the Welcome Table on November 12.

There was discussion about the meeting time for the Board. The goal was to have everyone here at 5:45 so that members could get their dinner before the meeting started. The Board decided that we should not require everyone to be here at 5:45, but to just get started at the 6 p.m. scheduled time.

### Consent Agenda:

September Minutes - no changes were made.

Procedure for Communicating Board Decisions – The version approved at the retreat was given to members.

Procedure for Delegating Board Authority - The version approved at the retreat was given to members.

Ordination of Mary Gear - Mary is being co-ordained by Portland First UU church. The ordination ceremony will be held at UUCS on February 10, 2018 at 2 p.m. A separate reception will be held at the Portland church.

#### New Agenda Items:

Proposed Investment Strategy – The proposed investment strategy was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting with the understanding that the Board would authorize it to be submitted to the Finance Committee. There was an objection to requiring the Board to address it on the agenda. The matter should have gone directly to the Finance Committee, with Board action after recommendations from the Committee. By agreement this item was removed from the agenda.

Approval to Bring Therapy Dog to RE on a once-monthly basis – The Board added this item to the agenda

Joanne moved and it was seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous

#### Regular Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Copies were provided at the Board meeting. The Treasurer reported that income is up for the year and expenses are down. The Treasurer noted that revisions might be recommended to the budget. There was discussion about the extra income, and the two bequests that the church will be receiving. There was discussion about the policies that govern how these funds are to be used. These are issues that will be discussed at the retreat in January. There was discussion about prioritizing needed expenditures, particularly related to church facilities. It was suggested that a needs assessment be prepared before the retreat.

Vice Chair/Team Council Report – The October opportunity fair was successful. Several teams got new volunteers. It was noted that the service fair was a “come work for us” solicitation rather than “join us in fellowship” offering. It was suggested that the Opportunity Fair should be on the calendar twice a year, as a recurring church event. It was suggested that this get moved to a retreat agenda.

Minister's Report – The report was sent by email. Rick suggests we need a method for publicizing the endowments that UUCS receives. When we know the amounts of Nina's and Rodger's gifts we should publicize this. We should also identify how members can contribute. This issue should be added to a future agenda. Rick also noted that there are a good number of people on the Pledge Drive Committee, but that the Committee could use more volunteers.

Facilities Report – The church has over \$160 K in unmet facilities needs. There are a number of current projects underway. The Committee is getting bids on the HVAC and heating

controls. The Committee is also seeking bids to upgrade the security system to identify who is logging in and out. The Committee is researching repairs to the wall in the library. Lynn asked that a prioritized list be submitted to the Board. John will send the updated list to the Board.

Benjahmin moved and it was seconded to acknowledge receipt of the reports. The vote was unanimous.

Special Reports:

Strategic Planning Committee – The October and November reports were submitted.

Flood and Water Monitoring – No report is available at this time. John will report in December.

UUCS Sign Project – Rick talked to a number of people about an ad hoc sign committee for a temporary sign to improve visibility.

Gloria moved and it was seconded to acknowledge receipt of the special reports.

Unfinished Business - none

New Business:

The Board discussed having a therapy dog visit RE on a monthly basis for children to read to. The Board was concerned about liability in the event the dog bit someone. The Board was also concerned about liability arising from the roosters that are on the church grounds. It was suggested that the insurance policy from Church Mutual Insurance be reviewed to determine liability coverage.

Susan moved to allow once a month visit from the therapy dog to RE, pending assurance that this activity is covered by liability insurance. The vote was unanimous.

Board Action:

Vision Statement for the Pledge Drive – Members from the Strategic Planning Committee presented the vision that it developed. The Board had directed the Committee to develop a vision and goals to present at the November 9 Board meeting. The Board would review the vision and goals for use by the Pledge Drive

The Board discussed some ideas for the Committee to focus on in drafting a FY 2018 vision:

What we are doing in the world?

What are we doing for our congregation?

The Committee developed the following vision and goals, consistent with the direction given by the Board.

“In FY 2018-19 we will maintain and increase the interconnections within our congregation and to our community.

We will develop and nurture a Fellowship Ministry &  
We will sustain and promote a greater involvement in Social Justice work  
In support of faith formation.”

There was discussion about whether this wording would be inspirational for the Pledge Drive Team. There was further discussion about the wording. It was suggested that Ed Kramer be requested to put it into publicity wording. The Board asked what the focus of the pledge drive is: a concrete staffing proposal or an aspirational vision statement.

Monica noted that the focus is the four ideas within the vision statement:

- Interconnection,
- Achieved through a fellowship ministry and social justice,
- In support of faith formation.

The Board approved this concept.

Joanne moved and it was seconded that the Board adopt the concept provided by the Strategic Planning Committee and direct the Pledge Drive Team to develop wording around the concept in support of the pledge drive. The vote was unanimous.

Ad Hoc Sign Committee – Rick presented recommendations on developing a short term (5-10 year) sign. It was suggested that UUCS shouldn't compromise on the quality of the sign. The process for appointing the Ad Hoc Sign Committee was discussed.

Benjahmin moved to authorize the Communications Team to appoint an Ad Hoc Sign Committee and to report at the December Board meeting on the committee membership and a timeline for developing options for the sign. The vote was unanimous.

Announcements – The Board retreat is on November 15 at 6 p.m. and will focus on developing a Board Covenant.

The next Board meeting on December 14,

Assignments for December –Lynn will designate a secretary for the Executive Committee meeting on November 29.

Chalice & Centering Thoughts: Gloria is responsible.

The chalice was extinguished and closing thoughts provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.