

UUCS Board of Directors Meeting

Attending:

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

Staff:

Samantha Scales:

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Chalice Lighting & Centering Thoughts:

The chalice was lit and centering thoughts were provided.

Visitors:

Michael and Patrice Pollard and Cecilia Craig

New Business:

Michael Pollard, Cecilia Craig and Patrice Pollard presented the Sanctuary Request Covenant. Michael discussed the concepts behind the sanctuary criteria. Rick discussed a meeting he attended in Canby with immigrants who are concerned about increased activity by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Family members of targeted undocumented immigrants may be unable to return to their homes following ICE activity and may need temporary shelter. It was suggested that UUCS expand the sanctuary policy to include temporary shelter for legal immigrants who are family members of detained undocumented immigrants. There was discussion about whether UUCS is equipped to handle the sanctuary requests. There was discussion about this being similar to the shelter provided to families under the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network (SIHN). It was noted that UUCS has local partners and church members who could step in when there is a request.

There was a discussion about the purpose of the Sanctuary Request Covenant. It was created to detail the process to be used when there is a request for sanctuary. It was brought to the Board for approval. There was discussion about the need to have policies that provide safeguards for UUCS when the sanctuary program is implemented. The Sanctuary Request Covenant is an excellent outline of procedures, but there are legal and ethical risks for UUCS if there are no clear policies that govern its actions. There was discussion about organizations with whom UUCS would partner (such as CAUSA) in approving a sanctuary request. The concept is that sanctuary requests would be received from these partner organizations, who

March 8, 2018

would verify the eligibility for sanctuary. It was noted that there is a need for a memorandum of understanding with these partners to protect UUCS from liability. Cheryl agreed to draft this memorandum of understanding.

The Board went on record to state its appreciation for the excellent work and dedication of the Sanctuary Team for the work that has been done so far.

There was discussion about the position of the Board on providing emergency shelter for family members of detained undocumented immigrants. Is there an intake process that could be duplicated from the SIHN process?

Sam volunteered to search the AAUA web site to see if there are policies and procedures that exist in other sanctuary congregations that could be used to develop one for UUCS.

Rick noted that UUCS may need to act quickly if there is a sanctuary request prior to the approval of sanctuary policies. The Board agreed that it would meet in emergency session if such a request is received.

Cheryl moved and it was seconded that UUCS provide temporary shelter to families in emergency that were sent to us by one of our partners. The vote was unanimous.

Comment: The Board will approve the policies and procedures necessary to implement this policy.

The Church World Service organization has sponsored a national sanctuary movement, and is offering grants for churches that implement sanctuary policies. The Sanctuary Team applied for a grant, and was awarded a grant of \$500. There are no conditions attached. There was discussion about the need for a grant application approval process for the Board.

Joel moved and it was seconded to approve receipt the grant from Church World Service for sanctuary activities. The vote was unanimous.

Comment: UUCS needs to develop policies on seeking grants.

Housekeeping:

Lynn noted that the new custodian has been on the job for 3 days and the bathrooms are clean.

Consent Agenda

February Board Minutes – The minutes were revised to state, under Special Reports, “Report from the Strategic Planning Committee - There was no report because the meeting occurred after the Board meeting.”

Benjahmin moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes as revised. The vote was unanimous.

Regular Reports:

March 8, 2018

Treasurer's Report - Income and expenses are tracking with projections. Investments have been losing a lot of principle for the past couple of years. The Chair of the Finance Committee will be checking with the Investment Team on addressing this issue.

Minister Report - There was discussion of the concept of the shared ministry dinner. The Board discussed who would be responsible for organizing the dinner and what the content of presentations should be. The Board determined that this should be an issue for discussion at the next Board Retreat.

Team Council Report - The Team Council report was sent to the Board by email.

Facilities Report - The Facilities Team is working on the budget. Joel Martin is working on upgrades to the HVAC control system.

Religious Education Report- Christie was in Idaho and Utah last week for the death and burial of her mother-in-law. No report was submitted. The Board will send a sympathy card.

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

Special Reports:

Strategic Planning Committee - The Committee provided a report on their meeting. The Committee provided a draft purpose statement "Create (connected) community where shared values can be lived." There was discussion about the purpose of this statement, and its relationship to measurable goals and outcomes. There was discussion about actions taken by the Port Townsend UU Fellowship that lead to it being designated as a breakthrough congregation in 2005. The Board requested that Susan send the link to the resources that she discussed.

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

New Business:

Treasurer's Report on Budget Details - The landscape budget will increase because of safety requirements. For example, there are requirements for the depth of bark chips in children's play areas. The Board also discussed the budget request from the Human Resources Committee that details the cost of health insurance coverage for employees.

The Board discussed the Budget Priorities that were drafted at the Board Retreat. These priorities are:

1. Implement fair and equitable compensation as an employer of choice;
2. Fund facilities maintenance requirements and facilities reserves;
3. Hire a part time Office Assistant in the interim until sufficient funds are available to add administrative staff; and
4. Hire a Congregational "Administrator". The definition of the position would need to be developed, as there are several different job functions that could be implied by that title.

March 8, 2018

John moved and it was seconded to adopt the Board Budget Priorities. There was one abstention.

Old Business

None

Assignments for March and April

Chalice Lighting and Opening and Closing Thoughts - Gloria Holland

Staff the Welcome Table on March 11 and 25.

Board Retreat is March 21.

Executive Committee meeting is March 28.

The next Board meeting is on April 12.

The Chalice was extinguished and closing thoughts provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.