

## UUCS Board of Directors Meeting

### Attending:

Christine Ertl  
Robin LaMonte  
Sharon Pierson  
Lynn Cardiff  
Steve Ovens  
Jack Tally  
Janet Stevens  
Rick Davis (Ex Officio)

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

### Chalice Lighting & Centering Thoughts:

The chalice was lit and centering thoughts were provided.

Visitors: Eric Shuman; Sara Pickett; Lily Walker; Lorian Schmidt

### Reports

#### **Production Team Livestream Needs**

Loriann reported on equipment and lighting options in the sanctuary to meet the needs for livestream services. The goal is to create a worshipful space that meets these livestream needs. A rough draft of the costs and alternatives was provided. Lighting is a major source of the costs. An estimated \$5,075 would be needed for the lights. Another major cost is mounting cameras, with estimates ranging from \$870 using the manually operated existing cameras and the construction of permanent camera “perches” to \$4,920 for new remote control cameras. The manually operated cameras will require personnel to operate, in addition to the personnel required for the sound and recording operations. There may be additional costs to enhance existing lighting. Concerns were expressed about the effect of lighting and camera perches on the “look and feel” of the sanctuary. The Production Team has consulted with the Arts Committee, which is excited about the options for using art to enhance the space and camouflage the equipment. These issues will be addressed at the March Board retreat.

#### **Withholding UUA Dues**

Eric reported on a proposal by the Committee on the Ministry to withhold Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) dues, in response to undemocratic actions and process. Eric noted that this was a suggestion that came from the congregation during the meetings held on the Gadfly Papers. The proposal will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Eric provided a background about how governance in UUA has changed over the years. The governing delegates are no longer elected as representative of regions and churches, but are selected at the general assembly. There have not been general elections in more than 9 years. This has led to a top down and more authoritarian leadership style. UUCS and other churches have requested a dialogue, but UUA is not responding to these communication requests.

Rick clarified that his role is to provide support to the Committee but to not advocate one way or another.

Janet noted that this has been a one-sided conversation and that no one from UUA has been invited to present an alternate view of these issues. Rick noted that the Spokane congregation asked for alternative views to be presented and were ignored.

Christine clarified that this proposal is does not require any action by the Board besides ensuring that it is included in the Annual Congregational Meeting. However, there is a need to clarify the impact of this proposal on UUCS. The Committee needs to address the following issues to ensure that the congregation has the necessary information.

- What are the sources to present and to clarify both sides of this issue;
- What are the potential impacts of this action on UUCS? Would withholding dues affect the UUCS nonprofit status? What is the impact on staff, teams and the Board?
- If withholding dues is temporary, until the democracy and other problems are resolved, how will UUCS know that these issues have been fixed?
- What are the other options for addressing these concerns instead of withholding dues?

The Committee will be holding Zoom meetings to inform the congregation about these issues.

### **Worship Team Annual Strategic Plan Report**

The report was included in the Board packet. Christine ask for questions on the report. A question was raised on what changes are anticipated when the church reopens. The Worship Team has focused on anticipating requirements for when the church reopens. Also, the Strategic Plan called for a focus on technology, which the Covid crisis proved to be correct. Sharon noted the tremendous amount of work that the Team has done over the past year to adjust to the electronic services.

### **Treasurer Report**

A written report was included in the Board packet. Sharon asked if there were any questions. UUCS will make it through this fiscal year OK, due to a couple of

additional sources of funds: the Federal loan that had been forgiven and the carryover of savings from the prior fiscal year.

Sharon also discussed the proposal adopted by the Board in September 2020 to terminate the Cintas contract. There are penalties attached to an early termination of the contract, so the contract was not terminated. Janet asked that the Board be advised when the contract ends.

#### **Finance Quarterly Report**

No report was received.

#### **Music Report**

A written report was included in the Board packet. There was no discussion.

#### **Social Justice Team**

A written report was included in the Board packet. Jack noted that the Team is working on having consistent Zoom meetings, to improve communications. Social Justice Team meetings are advertised in the weekly UUCS bulletin.

#### **Communications Annual Strategic Plan Report**

This report was submitted in February but was omitted from the agenda. There were no questions.

#### **LRE Report**

A written report was included in the Board packet. Christine asked about the Women's Retreat and the Women's Group. Janet noted that is not included in LRE, but Lily will be supporting the Group.

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

#### **Board Action**

##### **Nominating Michelle Blake as UUCS Board Vice-Chair**

Lynn moved and it was seconded to elect Michelle Blake as UUSC Board Vice-Chair. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Information**

##### **Pledge Drive Update**

Christine discussed the pledge drive and that there may be a need for phone call volunteers to contact church members about their pledges. The Stewardship Campaign kickoff was a huge success. The pledges continue to trickle in. Currently there are 65

pledge forms completed and the usual total is 90, so pledges are on schedule. March 15 is the date for pledges to be submitted, and after that date calls may need to be made.

### **Building Reopening**

Christine discussed the plans for the building reopening. The Task Force will meet on Wednesday to discuss the Marion County requirements and what actions will need to be taken to meet those needs. This includes air circulation requirements. Steve will be working with Emma on the air circulation issues. There was discussion about the building use schedule once the building reopens. There is a need to schedule Zoom meetings on the calendar, so that the information is available to everyone. An email should be sent to the Teams or Team Council to remind them to advise the office when a meeting is scheduled so that the office can post all meetings, including Zoom meetings.

### **HHV Land Use Agreement Status**

Christine reported on the meeting with the land use attorney and the creation of an “oversight group” to review a proposed agreement. The group includes Christine, Robin and Steve from the Board and Sunny Summers, Bob Muir and Susan Farris-Gosser from the congregation.

### **Facilities/HVAC/Landscape Arborist**

There was no proposal provided.

### **Housekeeping**

**New agenda Items** - No new items

### **Thank you notes -**

There was discussion about who to thank for the work on the Stewardship Campaign kickoff. A group “thank you” to staff will be sent.

Joel Martin for his work on the HVAC issue.

### **Consent Agenda**

February 8, 2021 – Board Meeting Minutes. There were no revisions to the minutes.

Janet moved and it was seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous.

### **Assignments and Upcoming Events**

- April Chalice Lighting - Janet
- Board Retreat – March 22 @5:30
- Executive Committee – April 5 @ 4:00

March 8, 2021

- Next Board Meeting – April 12 @5:30

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.