

UUCS Board of Directors Meeting

Attending:

Lynn Cardiff
Robin LaMonte
Lisa Marcus
Lorna Youngs
Christine Ertl
Sara Pickett
Ben Cavaletto
Tracy Boyle
Chris Keese-Ferguson
Rick Davis (Ex-Officio)

Guests:

Bob Muir
Robert Galloway
Steve Ovens

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Chalice Lighting & Centering Thoughts: Tracy

The chalice was lit, and centering thoughts were provided.

Reports:

Minister's Report

Lynn read the very moving letter from Reverend Rick which will go out to the congregation tomorrow in which Rick reported his planned retirement at the end of the church year in June 2024. After a stunned silence, several Board members gave heart-felt comments. Sara Pickett expressed her hope that we all work together to make this coming year a loving and giving year of transition.

Treasurer's Reports

The reports for April 30 and May 31 were included in the board packet. Lorna summarized the information in the May report and said she tried to anticipate the expenses that will be incurred in June which include the 4th quarter dues payment to the UUA and the payment of Rick's transportation funds. She mentioned that the LRE budget amounts were corrected in May to reflect the use of the unbudgeted LRE funds to fill the expense shortfall.

She will be working with the new treasurer (Steve Ovens) and bookkeeper to address the suspense funds and how to use those miscellaneous pots of money. In response to Christine's inquiry regarding the fundraising expenses, Lorna explained that money from coffee comes from that. Cash donations for coffee have dwindled and do not cover the actual cost.

Ben had some questions regarding the LRE unbudgeted funds and if the women's retreat money is included. Lorna explained that in the budget, the women's retreat is a separate line item. Lorna will do some double checking regarding the LRE budget and unbudgeted funds.

Tracy moved and it was seconded to acknowledge the reports as received. The vote was unanimous.

Board Action -

Approve delegates Robert Muir, Barbara Stebbins-Boaz, Joel Martin, and Sara Pickett to represent UUCS at the General Assembly (GA).

The motion is that the board approve delegates Robert Muir, Barbara Stebbins-Boaz, Joel Martin and Sara Pickett to represent UUCS at the General Assembly.

Christine moved and it was seconded, and the Board approved these delegates. The vote was unanimous.

Give direction to the delegates as representatives of UUCS on how to vote at the GA. The motion is that the board direct the approved delegates to vote their consciences regarding the UUA presidential election.

Ben moved and it was seconded, and the Board directed the UUCS delegates to the GA to vote their consciences regarding the UUA presidential election. The vote was unanimous.

Give direction to the delegates as representatives of UUCS on how to vote at the GA. The motion is that the board authorize the GA delegates to vote their conscience on the Article II proposal and any amendments keeping in mind the perspectives voiced by the UUCS congregation.

Background: A summary of the overall sentiment of the UUCS members who attended the Article II information meetings was presented by Bob Muir and Sara Pickett. There was much discussion regarding the status of amendments and what will happen going forward if the Article II proposal is approved at the GA.

Robin moved and it was seconded, and the Board authorized the GA delegates to vote their consciences on the Article II proposal and any amendments keeping in mind the perspectives voiced by the UUCS congregation. The vote was unanimous.

Appoint Chris Keese- Ferguson to another 2 year term as a director on the UUCS Board.

The motion is that the Board appoint Chris Keese-Ferguson to another 2-year term as a director on the UUCS Board.

Background: Lynn explained that there was some confusion as to when Chris Keese-Ferguson's original term was over and therefore, it was not certain she was included in the slate of nominees needing a vote at the annual meeting. Her intent is to serve another 2-year term on the Board.

Lorna moved and it was seconded, and the Board appointed Chris Keese-Ferguson to another 2 year term as a director on the UUCS Board. The vote was unanimous.

Approve John and Patty Davenport to cochair Landscape Team

The motion is that the Board approve John and Patty Davenport to cochair the Landscape Team.

Background: The Davenports came to Lynn proposing to take over the chairmanship.

Robin moved and it was seconded, and the Board approved John and Patty Davenport to cochair the Landscape Team.

Approve the donation from Rob Schiff for the new Air Conditioning systems.

The motion is that the Board accept the proposed generous donation from Rob Schiff for the new air conditioning systems.

Background: Rob Schiff came to Lynn and Lorna asking about the cost of adding air conditioning to the sanctuary and fellowship hall. He has offered a substantial donation which will involve transferring stock and the subsequent sale of same, that will cover much of the cost.

Robin moved and it was seconded that the Board accept the proposed generous donation from Rob Schiff for the new air conditioning systems. The vote was unanimous.

Information

Update on Providing Interpreting Services

Ben reported that there was an interpreter at the May 14 service. This was the first time UUCS had hired an interpreter for a service. The next steps will be to design an online service request form, put a short article in the newsletter regarding the service and finish setting up the fund to receive donations for

interpreting services. Lorna suggested that Ben work with Steve Ovens, the new treasurer, as well, to set up this fund.

New name for Art Works Team: Aesthetics and Design Team

Lynn reported that before her departure, Faith Rockenstein had created a new name for Art Works. It is not certain what will become of the team (or committee) in the future. It was noted that Faith was responsible for getting a lot of the UUCS art pieces cataloged, and Steve Ovens mentioned that she worked with the group who selected the new sanctuary carpeting.

There was discussion about how the proposed Art Works name change was handled. This raised the issue of the definitions of “Team” versus “Committee or Group” and who is authorized to approve group names. There are different portfolios and responsibilities unofficially tied to those names. The Board will need to clarify the scope of teams vs. groups vs. committees and naming authority, which will be examined in the new church year.

New Directors’ buttons and agenda for June Board Retreat. Meryl McKean, the new button maker, has made new yellow buttons for board members to wear so that church members can identify them. Lynn reported that the new directors board orientation will happen at the June 26 Board Retreat.

Housekeeping

New agenda Items -

An acknowledgement was made of the donation of a Yamaha digital keyboard to the music program by Lisa Marcus. There was discussion about the process the Board should follow on how donations should be acknowledged.

Ben provided a brief update regarding LRE. He reported that Molly Brown and Sara are no longer working for Kaleidoscope which may create some tension over the use of the RE space.

He also reported that the youth group is doing very well and has joined the Salem Youth Collective, which meets once a month.

Thank you notes -

- David Yeakle for his amazing composition *Enough to Keep me Going* sung by the UUCS choir yesterday! It will be posted on the website in the next few days.
- New landscape team co-chairs John and Patty Davenport
- Rob Schiff should be acknowledged for the generous donation after the donation is received.
- Lynn thanked Lisa, Robin, Lorna and Don for their service on the Board.

Consent Agenda

May 8 Board Meeting Minutes. There were no revisions to the minutes. Ben moved and it was seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The vote was unanimous.

Assignments and Upcoming Events

- July Chalice Lighting - Christine
- Board Retreat June 26 @ 5:30 p.m. in person
- Executive Committee - July 3 @ 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Next Board Meeting - July 10 @5:30 p.m. (Zoom)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.