

**Minutes of UUFSD Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 6:30 pm
Rev. Meghan's Office**

Board Members present:

Mark Tuller, *President*
Alisa Guralnick, *Secretary*
Robin Sales
Linda Giannelli Pratt
Rich Franzwa
Bob Quick, *Vice President*

Also present:

Rev. Meghan, *ex officio*
Christie Turner

Absent:

Swagatam Mukhopadhyay
Glen Bowden, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by Mark Tuller. Alisa gave opening words, and people checked in.

Decision items:

1. Motion to approve meeting minutes from 12/19/2017:

Move: Bob Quick

Second: Rich Franzwa

Call: Approved

2. Motion: UUFSD votes to register this congregation as in support of LREDA's request to amend the UUA bylaws to allow DREs to have delegate status.

Move: Mark Tuller

Second: Linda Giannelli-Pratt

Call: Approved (unanimous)

3. Motion: Subcommittee to investigate the installation of solar panels as follows:

- 1) The Board approves in principle the plan presented to install solar panels on Founders' Hall
- 2) A subcommittee is established of Linda Pratt, Board rep; and Debbie Hecht, EJTF, with assistance of members they select from the Finance, Design Review, Finance, and Buildings & Grounds Committees, to move the project quickly forward
- 3) The Board delegates full authority to the subcommittee to move forward on all fronts—financial, technical, structural, aesthetic, cost, negotiating, supervision, and so on.
- 4) Final contract or contracts including promissory notes must be presented to Mark Tuller as President to sign, and he may consult with Board
- 5) Board's guidance on preferred structure:
 - i) outright purchase is preferred over lease arrangements, but in the end whatever is simpler and most financially doable;
 - ii) internal financing by promissory notes roughly equal in payments to foregone electric bills is preferred, but in the end whatever is needed to responsibly do the job such as vendor financing or a loan;
 - iii) monthly UUFSD payments should be roughly equal or be less than electric bills, i.e., neutral or favorable overall cash flow.

Move: Linda Giannelli-Pratt

Second: Bob Quick

Call: Approved (unanimous)

Action Items from last month (no changes):

- Earmarked donations (MT)-gave an update, policy to be drafted by March 2018
- Glen: accurate membership numbers; Betsy and Glen have reviewed the list, cleaned up, process discussed; Betsy to follow up on inactive members done
- Rich: fundraising luncheons reboot: Rich reported he was canvassing for groups to volunteer.
- Staff bonuses (Mark/Swag)--done

- Festival of Colors/ “Holi” celebration (Swagatam)

New Action Items:

- [none]

Information Items:

Staff reports attached and reviewed.

Financials review (Mark T /via Glen’s written report)

Many people took advantage of the changes in the tax code to send in money prior to the year-end. We are doing well on a month-by-month cash basis. The Endowment Fund has ‘ballooned by 300%’ to \$27,000- still not a princely sum but if and when we reach \$100K, we need to sequester it (according to the bylaws) to safely invest it.

Buildings & Grounds reserve is lowered until we receive the insurance reimbursement from the Sandy Hill water/mold/spore remediation efforts, the amount of the reimbursement still TBD (depending on the insurance company's final determination).

Rev. M: Invitations to Pacific Western Regional Assembly, 4/27-29/2018, Portland, OR – One of the keynote speakers is Reverend Barber (“Repairing the Breach”)- she spoke of the deepening of one’s commitment by attending the Regional Assembly meetings, and made a case for those to considering to attend. Rev. Meghan will send around a link with additional information for those interested.

Alison McCleod: Voting rights of DREs at General Assembly /LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators Association): currently DREs do not have delegate status and are not eligible to vote at UUA’s General Assembly. Alison has been very involved in LREDA for 10+ years. LREDA is asking to change the General Assembly bylaws this year: they need 15 congregations to sign on, in support of this initiative. (Criteria include being a DRE with full time LREDA status (takes 3 years of membership) in a congregation.) Alison is asking this board to vote to support the LREDA initiative at GA this year, by voting to support them. Currently UUFSD has 5 +/- delegate votes at UUA (one vote per 50 members). See motion, above.

Topic: Solar Panels on Founders Hall (Mark Tuller)- re: the issue discussed at November’s board meeting. Debbie Hecht presented updated information to the Finance Committee- where a vendor would sell us solar panels outright, at a rough cost of \$40K, where the cost would be paid directly and where the panels would generate electricity equivalent to our monthly usage. The monthly cost of payments on the solar panel financing would be the same, or less, as our current monthly electrical costs. The estimated return on investment would be roughly 4-4.5%, which is an excellent general rate in return in today’s markets. The Finance Committee has set up a task force (Debbie Hecht, Linda Pratt and other committee members from Buildings & Grounds, Design Review, and John Atcheson). A discussion was held. The usual tax breaks available to for-profit and individuals is not applicable to us, as a non-profit, which complicates the picture somewhat. See motion, above.

Progress on the capital campaign, including parking lot (Mark Tuller): Mark gave an update on prioritized items, including the curtain that will subdivide Founders’ Hall and the glass wall that will allow for additional seating space on the outer patio area. John Sherman presented an idea of approaching the Spirit Level Foundation grant people, who gave us a grant for the kiosk over a seven year period, to see about perhaps financing against the original grant amounts.

Core Building Leak/Mold / Remediation update: Mark and Rich Franzwa. Sandy Hill has moved back into their space. Mold is still visible in certain areas in the kitchen area, and a discussion was held about what to do, going forward, with the kitchen building and the current administration building (given that Phase II of the Capital Campaign is, at best, several years away). The board felt that something needs to be done now with the kitchen to keep it functional, and to fix it as much as is possible, rather than wait for replacement in the future.

Casas De Luz “Board Build” 3/17-3/18: Mark Tuller circulated information about the family whose home we will be building, and that the Board will host a brunch fundraiser on Sunday, February 11th. Each Board Member is required to a dish or two – Linda will organize us for this effort.

Congregational Meeting 1/21: A discussion was held about the structure of the meeting, the Nominating Committee slate (Christie Turner, Marta Giri and Lisa Shaffer), and other topics.

**** Closed Executive Session****

****END Executive Session****

Deep Dive: Leadership Development

Christie Turner came to talk with the Board about the Leadership Development Council. There is a movement within UUA to create a paradigm shift, whereby there is a conscious effort to create the opportunity for individuals to develop their leadership skills by volunteering (rather than burning out the same volunteers, year after year). Christie feels we are in the middle of making a shift here at UUFSD. We’ve had two board dinners / workshops now, and have had some great response to them. The Beloved Communications and Serving With Grace programs have also supported this move toward developing leaders. We had 19 attendees at last Sunday’s new member / orientation meeting. Christie brought up the idea of ‘time tithing’, where one’s volunteer time ‘counts’.

The board talked about the five openings on the Board, come June, and brainstormed about some people to approach. Christie discussed the need to approach our younger members with shorter term commitments, to utilize a ‘hive’ approach, for more immediate tasks, and to have new/different ways to approach needs- such as Tiffany’s idea of having a “January team” for all January-needs (kitchen, greeting, ushering, etc.), then a February team, etc. and to commit much more close-term (not so far in advance). We need a new Communications team / committee. All good thoughts for consideration!

Next month: Religious Education deep dive!

March and April – ideas? Board members should come prepared at the February meeting to propose Deep Dive topics for March and April.

Who do we need to thank this month?

Louise Garrett – for taking over running the kitchen

Tracey – for being on top of “information central” issues

Alice Brzovic / Didge- for the new test website

Christie Turner- Leadership Development and many other contributions!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alisa Guralnick, Board Secretary