

Minutes of UUFSD Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2017, 7:00 pm
Rev. Meghan's Office

Board Members present:

Mark Tuller, *President*
Alisa Guralnick, *Secretary*
Robin Sales
Linda Giannelli Pratt
Swagatam Mukhopadhyay
Rich Franzwa

Also present:

Rev. Meghan, *ex officio*
Glen Bowden, *Treasurer*
Debbie Hecht
Allison McCleod, *Dir. Of RE*
Absent:
Bob Quick, *Vice President*

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 by Mark Tuller. Glen gave opening words (from the Onondaga prayer of thanks), and people checked in.

Items for celebration: Robin S- good progress on Meghan's Installation planning, decorations for the Hall; Mark showed a diagram of the Donor Plaque/Wall, that will go up in the Library; the photo directory is in the works.

Decision items:

Motion to approve meeting minutes from 10/17/2017

Move: Mark

Second: Swagatam

Call: Approved

Action Items from last month:

- 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
- Rich: fundraising luncheons, talk with Alejandra- will follow up on/after January, will work with Robin/Linda; Rich asked for, and received, the names of the 'kitchen crew'

New Action Items:

- Swagatam will coordinate with Tracey and Glen regarding the 'ask' for annual staff bonuses- putting information in the newsletters and prepping 'staff bonus' envelopes for the two Sundays, 12/10 and 12/17.
- Festival of Colors "Holi" celebration, March 4, 2018 (heralding spring) – Swagatam will lead, more to follow- Allison expressed interest in having RE participation, after 2nd service.

Information Items:

Staff reports discussed; Allison gave some insights into the paid teachers vs. volunteers issue in the RE program.

Committee Reports Lightning Round

- Rich- Concert Committee- Vicky Newman would like bigger/ lighted signs on the street; she has budget- okay to proceed.
- Swagatam: Communications/Website Committee – spoke briefly with Adrienne, hasn't yet spoken to Alice but has emailed w/r/t website review.
- Robin: SAJ committee- disappointed about the inability to sponsor the homeless shelter at UUFSD; perhaps revisit in the future (they understand the issues w/r/t City of Solana Beach and permit issues).
- Board Home Build in March 2018 / CDL: will kick off in January (with 100% board participation targeted); Robin will be out for 3 weeks in Jan/Feb, will need help to coordinate sign ups (need 30 ish). Linda: Installation Committee, has raised about \$1000, getting more donations (men's group, appetizers, etc.)

- Fun Fridays events- well in hand, scheduled for several upcoming months

President's update (Mark Tuller): PWSB Regional board training is available on Dec 2nd. Interested members should sign up directly.

Mark proposed our December deep dive be focused on funding challenges- Team G, shortfalls, auction. Swagatam proposed the idea that perhaps UUFSD is too diffuse in its programs. We will discuss in depth next month. Meghan may have some ideas about help for Team G leadership. January will be focused on the Strategic Plan, and February will be Religious Education.

Sandy Hill tenant update: The French Montessori school (proposed tenant) has dropped off, deciding not to proceed further. The Finance Committee has heard from an individual who proposed a new school, and feels this is too great a risk. The Finance Committee will therefore wait till spring of 2018 to re-evaluate searching for possible other tenants, using an actual real estate broker, assuming someone on the Finance Committee is willing to take on the project itself (current members being burned out on the topic).

Arts Ministry proposal (Mark): Mark presented a proposal for a new Arts Ministry program, with Betsy Gilpin as its nominal leader. (See attached proposal). A discussion was held. A concern was raised that, if there is a 'ministry', there has to be a path to it not being restricted to those who can afford to pay. Mark will take the idea back to Betsy for some further considerations.

Rev. Meghan: Discussion of discovery of mold in Sandy Hill Office and Kitchen due to water leaks; Ken Schultz, Rich and Stu Anderson are working on the issue; black mold has health implications. B&G reserves can be spent if needed to remediate the problem. An estimate is expected early next week.

Financials: Glen reviewed the financials. Sunday collections are down quite a bit; misc. donations are down; special event revenues are down; pledge collections are about at the normal level for this time of year. Glen discussed that he would like to start the pledge drive earlier (start in mid-February this year). Many members are in arrears on their pledges this year; difficult to collect. A discussion was held.

Deep Dive: Environmental Justice Task Force / Sustainability: Linda Giannelli Pratt, Debbie Hecht (see attachments)

Top priorities from the recent EJTF survey were: socially responsible investing, solar panels, recycling, improving our ecological footprint.

1. Socially responsible investing (Linda G-P): Mark gave an update as to current Finance Committee practices, gave some history in an experiment in investing (where some monies were lost), and that we have settled on a specific Vanguard (GNMA) bond mutual fund with about \$500K, with the remainder in cash funds, used for bill paying and Capital Campaign needs. We have explored leaving Wells Fargo (due to recent scandals), and have elected to stay nonetheless with WF because: they serve our accounts well, we have a good relationship with the local banker, WF has taken drastic public actions to improve their business practices, and moving our checking account was a miniscule protest; and it would take quite a bit of work to move the banking practices elsewhere and no one on the committee was willing to take it on. The committee feels it has struck a good balance between social responsibility and practical concerns. Linda (with Debbie Hecht) has requested a meeting with Finance Committee, to discuss further.

2. Debbie Hecht provided information on Solar Panels (got two quotes) to install about 25 panels on Founders Hall. Debbie presented a financing proposal, by which an investor (or consortium) could purchase the panel system (and be eligible for tax credits, as well as depreciation), and lease back the system to the Fellowship. After 10 years, the Fellowship would fully own the system and the cost would be essentially zero on an ongoing basis. There is some urgency, as the current administration could reduce the currently-available tax credits (which expire in 2020) – getting in soon could allow this project to be grandfathered under current regulations; and changes in net energy

metering regulations continue to evolve- getting in on this sooner could be important, in the event that the number of allowable systems become limited in some way. If an investor or group of investors could be found, this could be very attractive. Debbie will request a meeting with the Finance Committee.

3. Kitchen recycling: A discussion was held as to the development of guidelines for reducing paper waste and taking advantage of our plates, silverware, etc. rather than using paper products. Debbie presented the “3 Sink Method” as a way of efficiently cleaning reusable dishware, rather than using the dishwasher, for certain larger groups.



Who do we need to thank this month? Susan, Chuck and Renata Hahm (Dia de los Muertos); Robin Sales and Linda Giannelli-Pratt (Meghan’s installation), Betsy Gilpin (CRC annual food drive).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alisa Guralnick, Board Secretary

UUFSD Board Meeting Agenda
November 21, 2017

1. Chalice Lighting and Check-in
2. Opening words (Glen)
3. Items for celebration; tracking success
4. Review and approve minutes from last month
5. Report on action items from last month
6. Information Items
 - a. Monthly reports: RE, Admin, Dir. Of Connections, Rev. M
 - i. Sent via email; attach to minutes
 - b. Monthly reports, as needed, from Committees
 - c. Rotational Homeless Shelter—forbidden by Solana Beach
 - d. Endowment Plaque—ordered
 - e. Board's Casas de Luz Build on March 16-17—fundraising progress
7. Review Board goals list—**progress?**
8. French Montessori School—they decided not to proceed—next steps?
9. Arts Ministry (a/k/a watercolor classes)
10. Holiday bonuses
11. Monthly Financial Review
12. < Break for snacks > **and picture session?**
13. Thoughtful discussion topic for the month (*8:00 pm-ish*)
 - a. **Environmental Justice/Sustainability**—Linda, Debbie Hecht
 - b. Next Up:
 - i. December — Funding challenges? (Team G, \$50K shortfall, Auction, etc.)
 - ii. January — Strategic Plan?
 - iii. February—Religious Education?
14. Leftovers [second thoughts on things, items we forgot, etc.]
15. Review of action items/decisions
16. Items for next month's meeting – if any
17. Who do we need to thank this month?
18. Process check and check out
19. Adjourn