

FUUSN Board of Trustees
Tuesday November 29, 2022
Virtual Zoom Meeting, 7:00 PM

Staff: Parisa Parsa, Interim Minister Devin Shmueli, DRE, absent Board: Demie Stathoplos, Chair Barbara Schmitt, Vice-Chair Stephanie Kendall Hattie Kerwin Derrick Joe Klinman (Youth) Chris Krebs RoseAnn Murray Clerk: Kit Ryan	Visitors: Susan Bartlett, Operations Dan Stoll, observer
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INVOCATION / CHALICE LIGHTING/READING OF THE BOARD COVENANT: 7:02PM.

APPRECIATIONS:

- Tree people, led by Eric Haas.
- Yard Sale team, led by Connie Stubbs and Denise Bousquet.
- Kevan Hartshorn for his donation to the Silent Auction.

PROCEDURAL:

- Vote to approve BOT (Board of Trustees) meeting minutes for October; Chris made the motion to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Barbara, the motion passed unanimously.
- Sign-ups for Board Greetings starting in January, and attendance to Ops meetings. Parisa would like the Board Greetings on a shared spreadsheet that she and Anne can access.
- Hattie reviewed the recent Operations Council meeting, to include:
 - Finances and current budget.
 - Laurel reported on the parking lot.
 - Updating COVID protocols.
 - Holiday Fair planning.
 - Committee Chair meeting November 19; Linda Ross took notes, Susan will send to the group.
 - Our 175th anniversary will be in October 2023.

UPDATE ON STAFF AND CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19 SITUATION: Review current staff and congregational responses that are relevant for the Board's responsibilities and activities:

- Parisa Parsa:
 - November was busy, to include pastoral visits.
 - Working with Devin to integrate more multigenerational possibilities, also to bridge the gap with our older congregants.
 - On November 20th took our PreK-2nd graders to Cabot Park Village to see our FUUSN members who lived there. This was a great experience for the kids and parents shared they heard only good things.
 - Working with Anne Watson Born on Trans Day of Remembrance.
 - Planning for upcoming Solstice Service.
 - Filling in for the Membership Service role; working on identifying administrative issues associated with the role to update; also pursuing the website update. Working with Dan Stoll regarding Realm possibilities.
 - The first Ponder with Parisa get together was well attended, hope to offer sessions monthly.
 - Looking at possibilities for Alternative Coffee Hour.
- Devin Shmueli: Devin emailed in his report:
 - We had 15 people show up for our first youth group outing, which was to Puzzle Break, November 19th. There were 20 people total who were interested, including a new 9th grader whose mom has not yet joined but is exploring that option now that she knows her kid felt very included!
 - 12 Building Bridges youth visit the Hindu Temple in Medford on November 13th, joined by five adults. People really learned a lot and engaged well.

STRATEGIC:

- Update on Parking lot negotiations: Demie.
 - Demie, Laurel, and Susan Bartlett, have continued to meet with Mark Development, but the negotiations stalled because the Board is not supportive of a 99 year lease on 11 of the spaces.
 - The earliest the Mark Development would break ground would be 2025.
 - Continuing to look at alternative financing, getting estimates.
 - This remains a priority, for our own congregation members as well as for tenants.
- Recruiting Pledge Drive “apprentices” (plus finding Clerk to fill in for Kit, should she shift to the ADB team):

- Discussed pledge drive roles.
- Joe will create a Google Doc for potential ABD (Annual Budget Drive) volunteers; possible candidates were discussed, and BoT members volunteered to contact individuals.
- Will need 3 ABD apprentices or 2 ABD/one clerk.

· Next Steps on Search Committee for Settled Minister:

- Discussed the UUA Settlement Handbook recommendations: <https://www.uua.org/careers/ministers/transitions/settlement-handbook>.
- Need to have search committee recommendations for the June 2023 Annual Meeting to be voted upon. The members need to be trusted by the congregation members and need to be able to look to the future of where we as FUUSN want to go.
- The congregation members need to understand the work of the search committee. Need to have congregation members feel that they were able to contribute their input, ideas, and opinions, to include input from our youth; will need multiple opportunities in a variety of venues & media/methods. This will maximize the assent and acceptance of the search committee, the process, and ultimately the selected settled minister candidate.
- Needed steps:
 - § Develop presentation for the congregation to explicate the search committee's work .
 - § Prepare the timeline for presentations and meetings plus the dates/times and planned media (i.e., in person, Zoom, email).
 - § Develop Google Docs form for nominations.
 - § Search committee timeline steps needed by the Annual Meeting.
- Christine Purcell, UUA, could give a briefing at an upcoming BoT meeting on the search process, to include selecting a search committee.

· Next Steps on Oct 23rd Mtg:

- Parisa, Hattie and Stephanie met; discussed issues to include how to engage the congregation on our many upcoming priorities. Hattie and Stephanie will facilitate.
- Notes from the meeting to be shared between BoT, Operations, RJM (Racial Justice Ministry), Membership, and Gayle Smalley, historian.

· Board Role in 8th Principle priorities:

- What is the BoT's role to support the 8th Principle?
- How does our history lead us to where we are now with the 8th Principle?
- Hallway portraits as an example of the issues we face as we plan for the future.

- Bylaws: Gordon Moriarty to meet with Demie next week regarding upcoming bylaw amendments under consideration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- Vote to enter Executive Session; Chris made the motion to enter the session; the motion was seconded by Demie, the motion passed unanimously.
- Vote to proceed with proposal (for FUUSN staffing and support); Stephanie made the motion to proceed with the proposal; the motion was seconded by Chris, the motion passed unanimously
- Vote to exit Executive Session; Demie made the motion to exit the session; the motion was seconded by Chris, the motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF MEETING PROCESS, APPRECIATIONS, CLOSE: Review our process and share what we appreciate about our meeting tonight utilizing Inclusive Meeting Self-Reflection table. The group reviewed what members appreciated about the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06PM.

End note: UUA 7 principles:

- o The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- o Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- o Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- o A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- o The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- o The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- o Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
- o And the 8th principle: we covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural beloved community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.