

UUCF Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes 10/10/2023

Members Present: Heather Enriquez (Acting President), Bruce Johnson, Thomas Contreras, Mahnaz Shahrestani, Cathy Frickert, Colleen Clay, Rose London, Janice Paton, Rev. Dr. Jason Cook (ex officio)

Absent: none

Members Attending for Reporting: Karen Anderson

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order

Occurred at 7:03 pm Heather Enriquez

Agenda Item #2: Acknowledgment of Native Land and Chalice Lighting

Rev. Jason acknowledged native lands.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of September Minutes

Thomas made a motion to accept the agenda, Bruce seconded, no discussion or dissent, motion passed.

Agenda Item #4: Approval of October Agenda

Thomas made a motion to accept the Minutes, Janice seconded, no discussion or dissent, motion passed.

Agenda Item #5: Admission of reports to the record

Reports submitted were: Administrator's, and the Minister's report was submitted. No current therefore no Vice President's Report, no Bookkeeper Report was submitted. Brief discussion about getting reports out to Trustees sooner. Question by Thomas re: will we be getting a monthly RE/ FM report. This idea was supported by Colleen and others. Rev. Jason said he'd communicate that to Sarah Wittenberg.

Agenda Item #6: Treasurer's Report

No report was given as we currently have no Treasurer. Rev. Jason said that we are renewing efforts to find a Bookkeeper so that Bruce could return to that position. The Bookkeeper position requires 6 hours a month, with 6-10n hours at the year's end.

Agenda Item # 7: Engagement Report

Thomas had no report

Agenda Item # 8: Caring and Social Report

Mahnaz noted that we have 20 new people signed up for the Social/ Caring ministries. We are leaving Mark Umbriaco as Social Committee Chair and under him are Cathy Boone, Megan Smock, and Rose London. Mark reported on the Fall Event saying he spent \$164.86 for the event from the budgeted amount of \$600. He will coordinate the Winter Celebration in December. The planned menu is desserts, fruit, and probably cheese and crackers along with coffee, tea, hot cocoa, water and sodas.

Cathy Boone's Let's Get Social was a success and the Social Committee would like to add it under the Social Committee as it's no longer a fundraiser. There are no Family Circle Suppers until January. Families are encouraged to attend Camp De Beneville which is scheduled Nov. 10-12th, Dale is responsible for oral and written reports for announcements. In regards to the Online Coffee Hour Karen Anderson and Linda Lillibridge are active and they'd love to have real online coffee hours after the service and think this is possible with proper advertising. They're hoping that Jason or someone can encourage the members to attend the online coffee hours after the service in zoom.

Agenda Item # 9: Worship and Music Report

Rose London reported that because the Family Milestones committee is currently completely vacant, a pitch for committee members will be made during the Nov. 5th service as part of our Volunteer Drive. The Volunteer Drive lasts until Thanksgiving week, culminating in a gratitude service where Planned Parenthood will be present to take photos with UUCF and a "big check." The Music Committee (which didn't exist until this past year) is active and meeting regularly with Eleanor. Eventually, probably by February if Eleanor can't stay past this congregational year, the Board will need to decide if it wants the Music Committee to find a Search Committee to look for the new Music Director, or if the Board wants to appoint that temporary committee itself. As you may have heard, choir is on a "three weeks on/perform/two weeks off" schedule to encourage more people to come since they can select a cycle of rehearsals to be part of. Sam, our intern minister, will be preaching once a month, and this year we are trying to have more intergenerational services. We've also lost the multi-directional microphone at the table so will likely be using the actual pulpit more often in coming weeks. Apparently the mic is broken and we do not know whether First Chiritian will be replacing it. With Calvin gone, Eleanor is taking over some of the scheduling and management of the tech crew. The livestreaming of the Sunday services is complicated with Josh (our backroom tech person) doing double duty with First Christian's service, so Rev. Jason is looking forward to not being responsible for any of the livestreaming, once we can figure it out.

(Rose wants to note that Rev. Jason helped her collate this information, he really did! And I'm grateful.)

Agenda Item # 10: Service Report

Colleen reported that Social Action wants to do the Chili Fundraiser for PP at the end of October. There ensued a discussion about the matching fund concept with which we are going forward with Planned Parenthood. And, further, a hope that the social action committee communicates upcoming events without overburdening the congregation with emails from disparate sources and there was talk about doing a survey of what kinds of things the congregation wanted to see and support. Also, it appears that rev. Jason IS our Social Media person and perhaps eventually someone else could be found to take that off his plate. There was further discussion about wordsmithing the statement from Planned Parenthood who is essentially asking for some sort of a blurb to provide to send out to the entities that they're going to issue this challenge match Grant to. The 'Blurb' would go out to other like-minded congregations in Orange County. The hope is that we as a congregation can make this kind of bold statement and so Planned Parenthood is hoping that this will inspire bodily autonomy and Reproductive Rights.

A motion was made to approve the statement "blurb" by Bruce and seconded by Cathy. There was no further discussion or dissent, motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #11: Youth and Family Report

Cathy reported that this Sunday there will be an RE family planning session from 9-11 at the church, Cathy and Sarah will be attending. They will be reviewing the 3 year plan that was effectively held up by Covid, and planning for the rest of the year.

Agenda Item #12: Comments, Clarifications, Proposals, New Business

There was a great deal of discussion:

- Has anyone followed up on the accounts with Dale? No
- The monies in the checking account might better serve us if it wa interest bearing
- The passcodes need to be shared with more people (right now it seems to be just Dale
- Double signatures are/should be required that needs to be checked

- No one is questioning the handling of monies but the concern is to get better stewardship
- Bruce stated there is a Committee with he, Dale and someone else, and that maybe we should expand the Treasurer's Committee
- Is there a Financial Control Committee?
- Sherlyn is interested in being on the Financial Committee but not the Treasurer
- Who's leading the Committee?
- Options include:
 - Adding 2 board members and moving people around to fill the openings and Bruce is willing to assume Treasurer when we have someone to be Bookkeeper
- Heather mentioned that she'd spoken to Judy Mina-Ballard and that Judy would be willing to join the Board.
- A discussion occurred about creating a Health and Safety committee, after a mention of the Hurricane event. This has been discussed, but current thinking seems to be that it's tabled until the next meeting.
- Board member duties were mentioned re: the Count, and closings. Rev. Jason mentioned that previously these weren't an issue at the Temple. Then there were concerns about First Christian and being responsible tenants. He suggested that maybe we could release the duties to Church Members. No decision was made.

A motion was made by Thomas to accept Heather's suggestion to offer Judy Mina-Ballard a Board position, discussion ensued re: who will go where, it was mentioned that it was most important to add members first then decide on changes. Bruise called the question, and it was seconded by Janice. There was no further discussion or dissent, motion passed unanimously.

Continuing on with Other Business Colleen stated that we've already created the financial committee, she would suggest that we invite the people on these existing committee groups to participate. But then also allow some other people who might have an interest to participate in the financial controls committee. Also with maybe a short-term investment in time because the congregation wants and needs transparency in the finances. She said we might find some people who want to

participate who aren't currently on one of those committees but also be able to include anyone on those committees we wanted to join.

Colleen added that we probably need to have some kind of a plan for ensuring that folks know what their responsibilities are because being a board member of an entity like this has legal responsibilities as financial responsibilities and it has administrative obligations which we're all working our way through here now with our Robert's Rules of Order, for example. She's done a lot of outside work which she is happy to do but we need a plan. She brought up that the Board members need to know what's going on. That we need to discuss direction, Protocols, and communication. It was decided that we would hold a Board Retreat in January on the 13th at Church.

Agenda Item #13 Adjournment

Heather adjourned the meeting at 8:24 PM. Rev. Jason closed.