

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 24, 2013

Present: Wendes Jones, President

Alan Larson, Treasurer

Frank Caperton, President Elect

Elaine Watkins, VP Outreach Ministry

Elaine Hill, Past President

Nicky Ozbek, VP Congregational Ministry

Tom Kunesh, VP Religious Growth Ministry

Jim Welborn, Recording Secretary

Rev. Pam Rumancik, Interim Minister

Guests: Sandy Kurtz, Daidee Springer, Ken Beaver, Linda Helton, Linda Park, Leslie Brock, Frances Starkis & Melissa Reese

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order at **7:04pm** by **President Wendes Jones**

Opening and Chalice Lighting: Nicky Ozbek gave a one day at a time reading from Gay Moore's "New Rules to Live By".

Check In:

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for December 20, 2012 were approved with corrections after motion by Nicky Ozbek and second by Alan Larson.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report: Alan Larson

- Pledges are at 46% level and should be at 50%.
- Pledges could have been lower because several members have paid for whole year.

Last month the BOT approved a 10% contribution to the retirement fund for our DRE. Our Church Administrator would also like this contribution made to her retirement fund. This is within the UUA guidelines and would be \$1,000 for remainder of year. This would not apply to music director because not enough hours are worked.

Frank Caperton made a motion to make the contribution to the Church Administrator's retirement fund in the amount of \$1000 for remainder of current year and at 10% level in future. Seconded by tom kunesh and approved by the board.

Daidee Springer presented a 2013-2014 dream budget for the BOT to review.

Action Items:

Interim Minister Evaluation: Rev. Pam Rumancik explained the reason for the evaluation is for US. Are we where we want to be as a church family or do we want to shift the direction. Rev Pam has already completed her evaluation and given it to BOT members. The BOT will complete their evaluation at a meeting on Sunday January 27 at 12:30pm.

Resignation of Treasurer-Elect: President Wendes read the resignation letter from Karl Hunt which stated in part "I will not be able to appropriately fill the position of either Treasurer-Elect or Treasurer in the upcoming year and a half, due to other obligations and health concerns." We need someone to fill vacancy for Treasurer-Elect for rest of year and then assume Treasurer's position on July 1. Frank Caperton Will fill board rep duties for Sunday, March 24 and Jim Welborn will fill in on Sunday May 26 if know one is on board by these dates. Nicky Ozbek and Alan Larson will search for a replacement Assistant Treasurer/Treasurer as well as VP of Resources and bring names to BOT for approval. They would appreciate any recommendations from members of the board.

Resignation of DRE: A letter of resignation was received from Kay McCurdy. Kay will remain an integral part of the church but wishes to do it upstairs. The BOT accepted her resignation effective May 26. Tom will communicate same to Kay. Elaine Watkins and personnel committee will search for replacement and bring to board for approval. Any changes to the DRE job description will be reviewed at February BOT Meeting.

UUA Certification Form: The UUA has asked that we fill out the certification for the 2013 GA. The question is: Should the draft Statement of Conscience entitled “Immigration as a Moral Issue” be placed on the final agenda of the 2013 General Assembly? This will be their initiative for the next three years. Our answer choices are Yes, No, or Abstain. Frank Caperton made a motion to vote yes. Nicky Ozbek seconded the motion and the BOT approved. President Wendes will complete and return form to UUA.

AT& T Cell Tower Offer: Frank Caperton discussed the offer received from AT&T’s leasing agent MD7 for a lump sum payment for the cell tower rental. They offered \$70,000 for a 40 year time frame. The finance committee recommends that we reject the offer. Frank Caperton made the motion to reject the offer and Tom Kunesh seconded the motion. The BOT approved. Wendes Jones will write letter rejecting the offer.

Spiral Scouts: Nicky Ozbek received a letter from member, Stephanie Polen, for UUCA to sponsor this non profit organization and allow use of church space twice a month. Spiral Scouts is a program for girls and boys of all faiths working, growing and learning together. Stephanie Polen got a good write up about the Spiral Scouts in the New Free press. Additional information can be found at www.spiralscouts.org. There are concerns of requirements for sponsorship of the organization. Tom Kunesh made a motion to approve meeting space for the spiral Scouts and that Stephanie Polen attend the April BOT meeting to present a program to the BOT before we address the issue of sponsorship. Alan Larson seconded the motion and BOT approved. Nicky Ozbek will communicate this to Stephanie Polen.

Leadership Training: Wendes Jones stated that the UUA has regional training and there is a session in August and applications must be in by first of May. Currently there is \$1800 in budget for Leadership training and this is one of our church goals. Frank Caperton made a motion to send the new President-Elect and one additional person to the August Training session. Seconded by Alan Larson and approved by BOT.

Stewardship Campaign Announcement: Sandy Kurtz had been asked to chair the stewardship campaign for 2013-2014 and Sandy presented her recommendations for the upcoming campaign. Let the Sun Shine In Stewardship Campaign:

- Incorporate the Solar Panel Project into the 2013 Stewardship Campaign to bring the UU community together in a common vision.
- For a guiding committee to fashion the campaign plan as pledge goal is established.
- Support the vision with informational programs, solar activities and demonstrations.
- Mount a “buy a panel” effort in conjunction with campaign.
- Target folks most likely to increase pledges and pay a personal visit.

Choices:

1. Add the extra amount needed for solar panels to the budget goal.
2. Add an additional box to the pledge card for solar panel support above the pledge amount.
3. Stipulate that any money above the budget goal will go toward the purchase of the solar panels.

Phase one of solar panel project would be for 12 panels to be installed on the portico. Two quotes have been submitted one from Sun One Energy in Chattanooga and Sustainable Future based in Knoxville. The quotes will be evaluated before final proposal is made.

After discussions tom kunesh made a motion to approve Sandy Kurtz as chairman of stewardship campaign and add the Solar panel project to the 2013 stewardship campaign. Frank Caperton seconded the motion and it was approved by the BOT. (detailed presentation will be attached to the minutes)

Board Retreat: Wendes Jones presented the idea for a retreat at Cohutta Springs in GA or Saint Mary's Sewanee in TN on February 15-17. Rev. Pam had suggested that it be fun and a time to get to know one another better. After much discussion, contentious at times, a vote was taken not to have the retreat at this time.

Taskforce for Weapons Discussion: Wendes Jones stated that the weapons policy is in a six month cool down period and that we would bring it before the congregation for further discussion. She had asked Elaine Watkins to organize a congregational meeting on the weapons policy. Elaine is currently working with Margaret Hudson and Brian Maskarinec to organize a congregational meeting in February. They are working on date and format.

Timely Agenda: tom kunesh would like to see a formal agenda sent out at least a week prior to a BOT meeting which would give time to review and discuss with committee members before the meeting. Members agreed that Agenda should be out earlier. After discussions, the goal will be to get the BOT Agenda out no later than the Monday prior to the BOT meeting on Thursday and anyone wishing to add something to the agenda must have it in prior to the Monday deadline.

Actions Items:

- 1) **Interim Minister Evaluation by the BOT on Sunday January 27 at 12:30pm.**
- 2) **Alan Larson will bring the balance of the Minister's Benevolence Fund to next BOT meeting.**
- 3) **tom kunesh will have the modified DRE job description for next BOT Meeting.**
- 4) **Wendes Jones will write the AT&T cell tower letter.**
- 5) **Nicky Ozbek & Alan Larson will search for Treasurer-Elect.**
- 6) **tom kunesh & Wendes Jones will meet on Thursday January 30.**

Check Out: Each BOT member made a closing comment.

Next BOT meeting: February 21 at 7:00 pm

Closing Words and Extinguish Chalice: Rev. Pam Rumancik gave a reading from Desmond Tutu.

Adjourn: 10:35 pm

Submitted by

Jim Welborn, Recording Secretary

