

**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

February 21, 2013

Present:

Pamela Rumancik, Minister
Wendes Jones, President
Frank Caperton, President Elect
Nicky Ozbek, VP Congregational Ministry
Tom Kunesh, VP Religious Growth Ministry
Elaine Watkins, VP Outreach Ministry
Alan Larson, Treasurer
Jim Welborn, Secretary

Guests: Buck O'Rear, Linda Park, Daidee Springer

Wendes Jones called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Chalice was lit and Rev Pam Rumancik gave the opening reading from UUA President, The Rev. Peter Morales in part "Our dreams, our visions of what we seek to become, are the true foundation of our faith." The reading was followed by a moment of reflection after which everyone checked in.

Approval of Minutes: Tom kunish made the motion to approve the January minutes with corrections and it was seconded by Frank Caperton and minutes were approved by the board.

Minister report 2-21-13: Rev. Pam Rumancik I spent the last week of January in St. Petersburg, FL at UU Minister's Association Center Institute. My workshop with Dr Mark Hicks was called "Dancing on the Edge of Meaning" and talked about the fact that in order to evolve or grow we need to move out of the center of our comfort zone and balance on the edge; the edge of our knowledge leads to learning new things, the edge of our physical strength leads to building more muscle, the edge of our imagination leads to creativity and brand new ideas.

I have been working with Wendy Sapp to initiate a Lay Pastoral Care team and met with the Caring Committee. I also met with the minister of West Side UU church, Rev Mitra Jafarsadeh, to plan our training session on April 20th.

There has also been progress made in changing our email format over to Constant Contact.

A group from UUCC attended the Interfaith Shabbat at B'nai Zion Friday, Feb 15th, where I was invited to speak on the response of a faith community to national tragedies and violence.

I also did a pulpit swap with Rev David Brown and had an interesting meeting with him afterwards.

I Lead a rich discussion on violence in our society and what leaders and congregations can do to help move the conversation forward at our Minister Cluster meeting in Knoxville.

We began a 6 part Worship class with Karen Mooney and 7 participants exploring the creation of worship that invites an experience of transcendence and transformation. The first three classes have gone really well.

A Production committee has formed to investigate technology needs in the sanctuary and devise the appropriate responses and purchases to improve sound and video capabilities. Finally – I’m trying to figure out who keeps putting away the chairs I’ve set out 3 times now. We have continued to have a full church each Sunday and it is not very welcoming to have newcomers wandering around looking for a seat. **(Full report attached.)**

Financial report: Alan Larson stated that we are currently at 95% of budget but there are several expenses outstanding.

Nominee for VP Resources: Buck O’Rear was put forth as VP of Resources. Frank Caperton made motion to approve Buck O’ Rear as VP of Resources to fill remainder of 2012-2013 year. Alan Larson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Reimbursement for mileage for volunteers and staff: Frank Caperton brought a recommendation from the finance committee for a policy for reimbursement of mileage for volunteers and staff. Currently the volunteer rate from the IRS is 14 cents per mile and the Staff rate is 56.5 cents per mile. After discussion and amended version was typed by tom kunesh. Frank Caperton made a motion to approve the new policy with amendments. Tom kunesh seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by board.

The new policy is:

Policy: Reimbursement of Mileage for Volunteers and Staff

Committee: Finance

Mileage for approved trips related to church business, subject to board authorization, will be reimbursed at the current mileage rate published by the U. S. Internal Revenue

Service:

- Charitable rate for volunteers,
- Standard rate for paid staff.

The church’s standard reimbursement for should be completed to obtain reimbursement. Approved February 21, 2013

Board Exercise: Wendes Jones led the BOT in an exercise using the following three questions:

- (1) “What is our church community doing well?”
- (2) “What would you like to see happen?”
- (3) “What else would you like to see going forward?”

Results of the exercise are attached.

Stewardship Calendar: Wendes Jones and Buck O’Rear discussed the stewardship calendar and it is set beginning with training of captions on March 4 and ending with the budget approval at annual meeting on Sunday June 9. Sandy Kurtz is chair of campaign and she has communicated the full schedule with those involved.

Report on Consultation: Wendes Jones and tom kunesh reviewed a consultation by Les Kertay and the congregation needs to develop its Core Belief. The board approved the consultation fee of \$260 for Les Kertay be paid from leadership development funds.

Ministry Search Committee: Wendes Jones stated that the congregation must vote on the seven members of the search committee. The congregation must be given two week notice before the vote and that we had hoped to vote on Sunday March 10. We are

currently one short and church membership is a concern with another. We need to complete the committee as soon as possible because we are losing too much time.

Updated DRE Job Description: Leslie Brock raised the concern about hiring family members and church members. Elaine Watkins will work with personnel committee to develop a policy.

Congregational Covenanting Process: At our start up crafting a Congregational Covenant was one of the primary tasks identified by the group. Frank Caperton has agreed to look into a process for getting this task done. Frank has checked out the covenants of a number of UU Churches and is in the process of identifying the process and finding leaders to implement the process.

Vacancy Treasurer-Elect: Nicky Ozbek and Alan Larson: The search continues for the Treasurer-Elect.

Also the report from VP for Congressional Life for February is attached.

Improved Church website: tom kunesh has been working on the church website and everyone should check us out at www.uuc.org also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/uuchurch Chattanooga and Twitter: @ uu of chatt

Elaine Watkins read closing words from Ben Franklin and the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Next BOT Meeting is March 21 2013 at 7:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jim Welborn, Recording Secretary for the Board of Trustees