

Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2013

Present:

Frank Caperton, President
Elaine Watkins, VP Outreach Ministry
Nicky Ozbek, VP Congregational Life Ministry
Jim Welborn, Secretary
Buck O'Rear, VP Resources Ministry
Leslie Brock, President Elect
Pamela Rumancik, Interim Minister
Daidee Springer, Treasurer

Guests: Kay McCurdy, DRE, George Helton, Catherine Long, Margaret Hudson, Martha Berry & Skip Stevens

Frank Caperton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The chalice was lit and Frank opened with a reading about Truth and Grace by Neuoff. Everyone checked in on how their week was going.

Minutes Approved: Buck moved to approve minutes as amended for regular BOT meeting of August 15, 2013. Elaine seconded the motion and motion was approved by the board.

Financial report: Buck reported that prepaids make our books look really good. We over spent our budget in August by \$3766. We will have the completed year end report by October meeting. The monies, about \$2500, will be returned from the MSC committee by Bart Solomon. Elaine moved to approve finance report as submitted. Buck seconded and the board approved. Finance reports attached.

Application for Developmental minister: Frank discussed what was involved in submitting an application for a developmental minister. After considerable discussion about why we need a DM in light of the MSC member's resignation, Daidee made a motion to move forward with submitting an application to the UUA for a developmental minister. Leslie seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously by the board.

Minister report: Minister's Report 9-19-13 by Rev. Pam Rumancik
The highlights include working with Wendy Sapp to get the Lay Pastoral Care team trained and visiting people. The service commissioning these members: Elaine Hill, Pris Shartle, Pam Johnson, Wendy Sapp & Yvonne Derrickson, will be held on Sunday, October 13th.

Another highlight is the good work of the Small Group ministry. I agreed to lead a group this year and I am excited about doing that good work.

I also met with the Tennessee Valley Pride Minister's group and am part of the Pride service held Oct 1st at the St Elmo United Methodist Church. They responded to my concerns about celebrating "communion" at an interfaith service by putting me in charge of the bread sharing portion of the service. This should be interesting! There is ongoing work to do with the disbanding of the Search committee including some hurt feelings and confusion. I am hoping we can be as transparent as possible without allowing the energy to be directed at specific people. We can encourage individuals to step forward and take responsibility as a part of a new culture of opening and support. This is a tremendous

opportunity to demonstrate and teach right relationships and non-violent communication. Detailed report attached.

DRE Report: Kay McCurdy Religious Education Report September, 2013

Average Weekly Attendance: 23 kids

- "We Serve" kick-off on October 6th. On the first Sunday of each month, from 9:30-10:45 a.m., our UU Kids will pitch in around the church, and work on a specific beautification/improvement project. (Example: sweeping the walkways; washing the windows, etc.)
- OWL Training is being offered in Atlanta on October 4-6, and in Knoxville on October 18-20. DRE is working to find two members (one male, one female) who would be interested in becoming trained to teach the UUA's *Our Whole Lives* sexuality curriculum to our grades 7-12 UUCS teens.
- Kick-off for *Secret Pals*, an inter-generational pen pal activity between our UU Kids and members of the congregation, is set for Sunday, October 6th.
- Our annual UUCS Harvest Festival, sponsored by the Religious Education program, will be held on Sunday, October 20th, immediately following service. There will be a pot luck lunch, drum circle, and games and activities for all ages.
- Youth Cons at The Mountain begin this fall. We already have a group, our Elementary aged kids (ages 8-11) penciled in for November 15-17. We will need to draw funds from the RE account in order to register for these conferences.
- With Reverend Pam's help, we are working to restructure the RE Committee this fall, and invite all members to take ownership of the program.
- Request for the BOT to consider if our RE program might engage in fundraising this year (such as a \$5 baked potato bar) in order to allow more kids to attend Youth Cons at The Mountain.
- Our esteemed Finance Committee has approved my proposal for a .75 per hour raise for nursery worker Carmen Vanderhoof. (From 10.25/hr to 11.00/hour)
Many thanks to each of them, and to the BOT. I will deliver the good news to Carmen tomorrow. See full report attached.

FORTH Stewardship Program: Buck briefly discussed the FORTH (Forward Through the Ages) program from the UUA at last meeting. Buck made the following motion: I move that the BOT accept the recommendation of the finance committee and approve the next step for implementation of the "FORTH" 12 month stewardship program. This would include forming a strategic planning, ad hoc committee reflecting many church sub-divisions. Number of persons will be determined. The charge will be to plan a twelve month calendar using UUA first year format and utilizing Appreciative Inquiry (AI) as the base platform. The committee to report results to finance committee and BOT for review and further action. After discussion, Nicky seconded the motion and the motion was approved by the board.

Nursery Pay Raise and Promotion: Kay made a presentation to the UUCS Finance committee on a Proposal for UUCS Nursery Worker pay increase and title upgrade. On this basis Buck moved that the BOT accept and wholeheartedly agreed recommendation of the finance committee to approve Kay McCurdy's request to increase the pay of

Carmen Vanderhoof from \$10.25 per hour to \$11.00 per hour. Daidee seconded the motion and it was approved by the board.

Setting Date for “8” The Play: Friday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary is the date. Nicky says that we already have a director and there will be from 13 to 26 reading parts. It is free for the UUA and will be promoted within the church and in the wider community. Look for further announcements. Frank thanked Nicky for her leadership on this project.

Update on Sound System: Nicky reported that the new sound system is here and awaiting installation and a donor gave more to cover excess cost. Nicky also moved that we accept the additional funds (\$1800) and install plaques honoring Joe Lewis. Elaine seconded the motion and motion was approved by the board. Nicky also moved that we accept a portable amplifier and microphone for use inside or outside of the church. Daidee seconded the motion and motion was approved by the board.

Quick Report Items:

Pam reminded everyone that the Small Group installation ceremony will be held on Sunday October 4. Currently there are 4 groups.

Frank reminded everyone that our BOT retreat will be Saturday, September 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. here at the church. Margarite Mills from the UUC Nashville will lead the retreat.

Leslie announced that the Quarterly Council meeting will be on Saturday, October 12 beginning at 8:30 a.m. here at the church.

Interim Minister’s Appraisal (executive session): The IMA was reviewed and everyone provided input from the BOT. Frank will compile and discuss with Rev. Pam. Appraisal is due September 30.

Frank read from a book by Rebecca Parker “Blessing the World” for the closing words. The article was: What shall we do with all this beauty?

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Next board meeting is October 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at UUCC.

Jim Welborn, Recording Secretary for the BOT