

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

Present:

Frank Caperton, President
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
Elaine Watkins, VP Outreach Ministry
Guest: Kay McCurdy, DRE

Frank Caperton called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. The chalice was lit and Frank opened with a reading of our Board Covenant.

September Minutes Approval: Jim thanked Elaine for taking the minutes for November. Daidee moved to approve minutes as submitted for regular BOT meeting of November 20, 2013 and Buck seconded the motion and motion was approved by the board.

Check-in: Everyone checked-in.

Financial report from Treasurer: Daidee gave the November report. Daidee reported that several pledging units paid their pledges for the rest of year. This makes our balance look very good and we should be fine if the rest of the pledges units come through. Buck moved to approve finance report as submitted. Elaine seconded and the board approved. (See attached reports) Status of paying pledges by credit card was addressed at the Finance Committee Meeting and Daidee made a motion that we accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee to use Pay Pal for payment of pledges with a credit card. Buck seconded the motion and motion was approved by board. Pay Pal charges a two (2%) processing fee and a thirty cent (\$0.30) transaction fee and we would strongly encourage that anyone using the Pay Pal system to cover these fees when paying by credit card.

Discuss Developmental Minister Application:

Frank discussed the process going forward. Special programs planned:

Sunday January 5 – Learning from the Past and Imagining the Future

Tuesday January 7, 2014 at 6:30pm Developmental Minister Input

Sunday January 12, 2014 at 12:00pm second opportunity for question and answer session

Thursday January 16, 2014 BOT meeting for discussion of results from congregational meetings

Wednesday January 22, 2014 Called BOT meeting to finalize our application for Developmental Minister due January 30

Frank asked each BOT member to give their 3 highest priority needs of the church. Below are the responses.

Financial sustainment, Participation, Communication

Consistency, Process the past, Programming

Outreach/Social justice, Recruit pledging units-\$, Time & structure, Identity-internal & external

Communication & consistency, Physical space-better utilization, Vision & long term goals

Governance-what type church?, Reaching out to the community-Universities etc., Involvement of membership

Identity-covenant, vision, mission; Participation-strengthen core membership, Governance-job, staff, bot

Community visibility, Lifespan training-RE, Volunteer recruitment and support

Create a safe place through building trust, Communication skills, Shared mission and vision

We also reviewed the notes from Council discussion on Oct. 12, 2013, concerning UUCC's strengths and possible areas for improvement during developmental ministry.

Ministers report:

a. Report on after Pastor Retreat: Rev. Pam attended an After Pastor Retreat in San Francisco, where they stressed taking a balcony view of to determine the patterns in the congregation.

b. Presentation of **Second Hour Experiment**: Rev Pam recommends that we try the Second Hour Experiment. It has been very successful in many other UU Churches. We would be having worship at 10:00am, followed by Fellowship at 11:00am and then 1 hour of RE for adults and Children from 11:30am-12:30pm. The Forum would be only one part of the adult RE. After much discussion, Nicky moved that we accept the proposal by Rev. Pam and the BOT to authorize the Second Hour Experiment to start on March 1 and run until Annual Meeting on June 8 where the congregation will vote on whether to continue. Buck seconded the motion and it was approved by the board. Rev Pam also proposed a **Faith Development Workshop by The Rev. Dr. Thandeka**, theologian, journalist, Emmy award-winning television producer and congregational consultant and organizer. She was the creator of "Practicing the Heart of Our Liberal Faith: Love beyond Belief". It is a two day workshop and she could come during April. The workshop would be open to the wider liberal community. Nicky made a motion to extend an invitation to Dr. Thandeka for a workshop on April 25-26 and funds come from growth initiative budget. Daidee seconded the motion and board approved. This would give us something exciting for February-play, March-launch of Second Hour and April- Dr. Thandeka Workshop.

DRE Report: Kay McCurdy - December 2013

- Average Weekly attendance of 26
- As part of We Care program, the UU Kids served breakfast to the choir, greeters, and early morning church volunteers on December 1.
- Our UU teens (7) had a successful trip to The Mountain on December 6-8 for Youth Con. Many thanks to UUCC Youth Advisors/chaperones Leslie Brock and James Joyner.
- Our annual indoor Walking Labyrinth, sponsored by RE, will take place on Saturday, December 21 from 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Rev. Pam led a wonderful No Rehearse Christmas Pageant with our UU Kids on December 15 and much fun was had by all.
- There will be no RE classes on December 29.

Report from Finance Committee:

a. Selling the web address “UUC.org: We are currently using UUCC.org. The BOT must approve the sale of any asset. Buck moved on the recommendation of the FC to sell the web address UUC.org and the funds be deposited in general account. Daidee seconded and board approved.

b. Craft sales in fellowship area: We are receiving more and more requests for permission to sell merchandise and a policy is needed to control. Daidee, Pam Buck and Leslie will develop such a policy.

c. Chattanooga Humanist Assembly request for space: Frank moved that we rent the forum Room to the Chattanooga Humanist Society on Wednesday January 8, 2014 for 4 hours at \$25 rate.

d. Forum fund-raising for electronic equipment: The Forum room has been in need of electronic equipment for several years. Funds were given last year for equipment but were used to help fund the new Fellowship room air conditioner. A member has promised funds of \$1000 again this year with a challenge that forum members match his gift. Jim Welborn gave a proposal to the Finance committee for their consideration. Buck made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee to accept the \$1000 and allow further fund raising through January to purchase the electronic equipment to be used in the Forum Room and else where in the church as needed. Also a policy for use of Electronic equipment for the congregation should be written. Seconded by Nicky and approved by the board.

e. Purchase of storage shed and new toilets: The Finance Committee recommended that we purchase a storage shed and the new toilets from current budget. We have purchased new lawn equipment and the current space is not sufficient. The new shed will be placed where it can be tied into our security system.

f. Solar panel project status: The Company in Knoxville cashed our down payment check and so far has not given a starting date. Frank, Sandy, Buck and Ken will discuss how to move forward.

g. Landscaping and Lawn Care budgets: Buck praised the Landscaping committee and buildings and grounds for doing a great job. The members are Ron, Marge, Tom, Greg and Paul. Some confusion arose over budgets. In the future is responsible for Landscaping and Lawn care budget and Paul is responsible for Buildings and Facilities.

h. Developing proposed budget for 2014-2015 and deadlines: Leaning toward a commitment Sunday for pledge Sunday. The program should be special and uplifting. Our annual meeting is set for Sunday June 8, 2014. The stewardship campaign will be set so the new budget can be voted on during annual meeting. Proposed budgets are due January 8, 2014

i. Status of UUCC membership list: Buck reported that 3 members need to be contacted and only one waiver has been requested. Currently we have 129 members and 108 pledging units.

Relocating new speakers: New modern speakers have been purchased and Joey Young can install. Nicky moved that we accept the proposal to remove the old speakers from the speakers and install the new speakers. Seconded by Daidee and approved by the board.

Quick Report Items:

Frank deferred to Buck and Elaine to report on Gifts for staff. We raised \$1,086 to be distributed equally among staff.

Next Finance Committee meeting will be on Wednesday January 8.

BOT training will be lead by Daidee and Leslie using the book “Governance and Ministry”.

Leslie reported that we raised so far \$1750 from the Copeland Photography auction.

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice: Frank read a passage from Rebecca Parker’s book “Blessing the World” talking about a religious task living in the world.

Adjourn: 9:30pm

Next board meeting is Thursday, January 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at UUC. Jim Welborn,
Recording Secretary for the BOT