

## Board Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2015

### Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga

**Present:** Monique Lewis, President-Elect; Buck O'Rear, VP Resources Ministry; Cecile de Rocher, VP Religious Growth Ministry; Linda Park, VP Outreach Ministry; Greg Cruz, VP Congregational Life Ministry; Daidee Springer, Treasurer; Frank Caperton, Past President; Rev. Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister; Jim Welborn, Secretary.

**Absent:** Leslie Brock, President

**Guest:** Judith Pederson-Benn, Chair of Social Justice Committee

Monique called the meeting to order at 6:35. Rev. Cathy lit the chalice and shared a reading. Everyone checked in.

**April Minutes:** Buck made a motion to accept the minutes. Linda seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Minister's Update:** Report attached. **Cathy's June – August schedule is as follows.**

Princeton Theological School June 8-13

General Assembly June 24-29

Vacation July 1-August 1

Office Hours August 3<sup>rd</sup>....through infinity

Back in Pulpit August 9..through infinity

Judith attended the meeting representing the Developmental Minister's Transition Team whose role is to assist Cathy in assessing and implementing the Developmental Goals.

Developmental minister discussions:

1. How to improve communications between Minister and transition team and the board.
2. Better communications should be a discussion item at the August Retreat for the new Board.
3. Judith should bring suggestions from the Transition Team for finalizing Cathy's evaluation at the June BOT Meeting.

Monique should send possible dates for the summer retreat to new BOT.

**Financial Report:** Daidee reported that we should meet our budget and will not know what funds should be transferred from COG funds. If VP's need things and have funds available in their budget then they need to spend funds prior to yearend July 1. VP's should review their expenses on a monthly basis from the income and expense statement. If a big project

Is expected, then it should be brought to the Finance committee in December to make sure it makes it into the budget.

BOT approved Kay McCurdy going to GA and there are funds available. Daidee made a motion for the BOT approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee to release \$838.95 in Line Item 3270 and apply to Kay McCurdy's expenses to attend GA. Buck seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**2015-2016 Budget:** Daidee has a few tweaks to the final budget proposal to present to the congregation. With the success of the stewardship campaign so far, we should to present a robust budget on June 7. Daidee made a motion for the BOT to approve proposed budget to present to the congregation for a vote. Buck seconded and the motion passed

**Items from Finance Committee:** Buck expressed deep appreciation to the BOT for the success of the Financial Campaign.

Priceless Campaign Report-May 20, 2015

Pledges received: \$175,479 Very Optimistic: \$1450 Optimistic: \$420

Sub Total: \$177,349

What Ever: Two members requested waivers, passed to membership, 3-4 minor involvement, not optimistic. Five new members, four with partners not pledged.

Endowment Changes for board to consider

The Endowment Committee recommends to the BOT the appointment of Lynna Ruth Standridge to the committee for completion of the term of David Reed. This appointment to be effective until May 2018. Daidee made the recommendation into a motion and Linda seconded the motion and motion was approved by the BOT.

Board information only, no action required

The Endowment Committee operates by; charter approved by the congregation June 2005. The charter authorizes three members to serve on the committee. The endowment committee recommends: "The minister and the president of the board or chairs designee from a member on the board shall serve as advisory members of the committee".

The Endowment Fund currently has a balance of \$71,097.89. When the fund reaches \$100,000, the interest can be shared with the congregation for their use.

Cathy says that in the future the Pastoral Care committee and the Endowment Committee plan to discuss legacy giving and additional information to build good stewardship in the home.

**Religious Education:** Cecile made a motion to accept a \$6,000 gift from a donor for floor covering for downstairs and we will find funds for overage. Jim seconded the motion and motion was approved. Plans are to install in June.

Cecile also reported that we will have OWL training in the fall, probably on Sunday nights and may include lock-ins. Eric and Cecile went to Boone, NC for OWL training to teach 7-9 graders.

Frank encouraged us to get our story out to the community through communication in the TFP. Get a story in the Life section to show how we do the training. Linda and Cecile to work on the communication and Social Justice could assist also through its contacts.

**DRE report: See attached report.**

Religious Education for Children & Youth  
April, 2015 Report

- Average weekly attendance: 36
- Easter Egg Hunt on April 5th. Big fun!
- UUC Teenagers spent month of April developing script and elements of service for May 3rd teen service.
- Isabelle McCurdy attended pre-site Youth Caucus training in Portland, Oregon from April 10-12.
- RE families were invited to assist the Landscaping Committee on April 11th to spruce up the church grounds. Low attendance from RE families, but still managed to get a lot of work done between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Painting, mowing, raking, weeding, and moving brush. Kudos to our Landscaping crew for the work they do year 'round to make the church grounds so welcoming!
- Plans for painting the downstairs hallway, nursery, and remaining two RE classrooms are underway.
- DRE applied for, and was awarded, a scholarship from UUA to cover registration costs for General Assembly 2015.
- We have decided to offer an additional class in the fall for preschool age children (3&4).

**Outreach:** Linda Park's report is attached. Cathy will pursue getting someone from the Southern Region to speak about the Chalice Lighter organization.

**Congregational Life:** Greg reported that we need a shelf for coffee and it will be done. We also have a new headset for Rev. Cathy which will work much better. Greg also brought up the fact that Social Justice Committee is asking for a congregational vote supporting the Move to Amend resolution at the June 7 annual meeting. Judith will present resolution to congregation at annual meeting. Greg made the motion to present the resolution to the congregation for a vote. Linda seconded and motion passed.

## Move to Amend Resolution

BE It Resolved, the Congregation of Chattanooga Unitarian Universalist Church stands with the Move to Amend campaign, and communities across the country, to defend democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate power by amending the United States Constitution to establish that: 1. Only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights, and 2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Congregation of Chattanooga Unitarian Universalist Church hereby joins with other organizations statewide to instruct our State and Federal Representatives to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort.

A request to bring to a vote at the Annual meeting to change bylaws pertaining to financial contribution of members. This will be considered as part of our next Bylaws revision not at this annual meeting..

**July 4 Picnic:** The Wowzers have asked for the BOT to sponsor a July 4 picnic on Sunday July 5. The BOT will sponsor a Labor Day picnic instead of a July 4. Cathy to inform the Wowzers.

**BOT retreat deadline follow-up:** Policy Review Update; Daidee and Jim stated that we met on May 7 and next meeting will be June 8 and we will report at June BOT meeting.

**Quick Report:** a)SUULE Pam Johnson has applied for a grant to attend the Southern Leadership Experience at the Mountain.

b) BOT Representation at GA: Daidee and Steve along with Kay and Sophia. Maybe Sophia can our flag in the parade of flags. Buck made a motion to approve the delegates and Linda seconded and motion passed. Rev. Cathy will also be attending GA. Judith will attend as well.

c) **Next BOT Meeting will be Thursday June 18 at 6:00 p.m.** New members of the Board will be invited. Bring a dish and meet at 6 p.m.

d) Appointment to Nominating Committee: At the suggestion of the nominating committee, President Leslie has appointed Don Donart to fill the second year of the second term of Charles Wright.

**Closing Words:** Cathy gave the closing reading and extinguished the chalice. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Jim Welborn, Secretary