

Minutes of Meeting  
WHUUF Board of Trustees, Sept. 27, 2017

Present: Members: Joe Boyd, Maribeth Allen, Megan Esler, Diane Freedman, John Riles, Kim Transier, Mary Usui; Staff: Sara Cloe, Rev. Tracy Springberry; Guests: Rick Tangeman, Pat Tangeman, Sulima Malzin.

Opening: The meeting was called to order at 6:35. A reading was given by Rev. Tracy as the chalice was lit. We are experimenting with not having a check-in.

President's Report: Megan's offer of partial scholarships to help two senior youth attend the upcoming Youth Conference was accepted by one youth. We decided to **cover the whole \$200 cost** of her attendance (\$100 for the youth plus \$100 for WHUUF's Senior Youth advisor, required as a sponsor). This money will come from WHUUF's Children's fund, saved from past RE program registration funds. No other WHUUF youth plan to attend this conference.

Congregational Administrator's Report: Report sent ahead of meeting (Pat was absent). Pat, Tracy, and Sara are piloting a new arrangement: **The two nursery childcare providers will be paid for one additional hour each Sunday at their regular rate** to wash up after coffee hour. This solves two problems: (a) nobody's been signing up to "do" coffee on the volunteer clipboards and (b) the brevity of Sunday mornings makes the nursery job unattractively small. The money for the additional hour will come from Sunday Support funds, not the RE budget.

Treasurer's Report: Report sent ahead of meeting. Joe noted that Total Revenue and Expenses year-to-date are since July 1. The format compares what has actually happened to what we budgeted. Based on discussions with other UU financial people, Joe withdraws his suggestion of a bylaw change so that the Treasurer needn't be on the Board.

Director of Religious Education's Report: Report sent ahead of meeting. This week Sara met with Megan, Kim, and Tracy on the need to reduce our RE program now that the DRE position is half-time. The Coming Of Age and Our Whole Lives programs cannot be done with a half-time DRE, at least not every other year as has been our practice. (This year's OWL course, already in session, will continue.) The RE Committee will need to be larger and its members empowered with portfolios of responsibility. Both Megan and Sara have discussed the situation with Tandi, our district Congregational Life Staffer. Drumming up volunteer support for classrooms takes a lot of time; Signup Genius email/online signups have been added to paper signup sheets.

Minister's Report: Report sent ahead of meeting. Chalice Circles are forming: 40 people have signed up; Tracy has organized 5 groups. She is recruiting Room To Grow task force members. A Community Minister has contacted Tracy as a potential Affiliated Minister, using the same agreement as Kate Lore had. Tracy will invite her to our

October board meeting. Tracy observed that most WHUUF committees are straining due to not enough members to do the work.

Building and Grounds: Report submitted at the meeting. Rick has learned our kitchen fire suppression system is outdated (illegal) and updating it will cost a few thousand dollars. Some of this can be unused Chalice Lighter stove funds. A company owned by a parent from Woodhaven (our preschool renter) has just offered a low bid for cleaning RE wing roofs and gutters; Rick will follow up. Eleven people volunteered at the September work party.

Sanctuary Stage: Report submitted ahead of meeting. Sulima reported that due to limited advertising and low attendance, the September performance did not recoup the \$450 WHUUF laid out, only \$250 after advertising costs. An outline for the future will be presented at next month's board meeting. The donation of stage lighting discussed previously was found unsuitable for our space.

Emergency Response during Sunday services: Report submitted ahead of meeting. We've had a successful fire drill; Sulima notes that fires are not the only sudden situation to plan for. Lay Leaders will be first responders and need procedures. Trained volunteer ushers can be key helpers in such events. By the next meeting Sulima, Diane, Rick, and John will write the charge and form the Safety Task Force to plan responses to disruptive adults, dangerous intruders, and other situations. The Safety Task Force plans will be subject to board approval.

Strategic Planning: The Planning Committee will be represented at each board meeting. Suzanne noted that the RE program (Interim DRE), Room to Grow, and the roof are the high priorities for the 2017-2018 year.

Paddle Raise: The auction is Oct. 28. After discussing several suggestions, we preferred ceiling fans for the sanctuary as the project of the Paddle Raise; Rick will take this request to the Auction Committee. Renovating the offices and replacing the piano were anomalously expensive projects; installing fans, in the \$2,000 ballpark, returns us to customary Paddle Raise fiscal territory.

UU Life Beyond WHUUF: Pat Tangeman updated us on WHUUF's participation in the Mt. Hood Cluster and we reaffirmed our commitment to it. The 10 local UU congregations exchange information, aid, programs, and resources. All Cluster representatives are board members of their congregations. Only Cluster representatives can vote in decisions but all congregation members are welcome to attend Cluster meetings (e.g., October 8 at WHUUF). John Riles will continue being WHUUF's rep this year. Pat also mentioned that the Western Region Assembly will be in Portland Apr 27-29, and that members of our Social Justice Team will attend a state-wide social justice meeting in Corvallis this month. John, Joe, Mary, and Megan attended a Western Region Board Training workshop and picked up some improvements on conducting board meetings, e.g., the "open-ended question" to raise our vision to the bigger issues.

Congregational Meeting Oct. 29: Sara will present on the RE program and Interim DRE work. John will check whether Social Justice wants to present, and Pat Tangeman will check with RJCC (Racial Justice). Strategic Planning does not plan to present. Joe will report on last year's financial performance. Sulima will announce the formation of the Safety Task Force. Tracy will explain the minister search (Interim, Contract, Called).

Relational Meetings: Tracy advocated arranging one-on-one 30-minute meetings where newcomers and older members get to know each other, exchanging stories of the passions that bring us to WHUUF. The Committee on Ministry members have agreed to be matched with people; the board is asked to consider doing the same. A similar "buddy system" we had years ago was fondly remembered.

Open-Ended Question: What can we do to serve the many people who find us and may need us but are turned away for lack of space? "Heartstorming" ideas: Enhance the downstairs overflow room with nicer chairs (donation?), a screen or plants, a chalice, flowers, hymnals, rug (donation?), oldtimers leading the way. Remember research shows an 80% full sanctuary strikes newcomers as "too" full. Give maps of parking options. Organize volunteer shuttle cars from one of the unused parking lots at Oleson & Hall. Could we stream our video online, e.g. Facebook? (Not Joys & Sorrows; confidentiality.) John says we can fit more chairs in the sanctuary if we measure. Add the library to the streaming of video for parents with restless kids.

Closing Assignments:

John 10/1

Mary 10/8

Diane 10/15

Megan 10/22

Kim 10/29

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Submitted by  
Kim Transier