

Minutes of Meeting
WHUUF Board of Trustees, Nov. 29, 2017

Present: Members: Joe Boyd, Maribeth Allen, Megan Esler, Diane Freedman, John Riles, Mary Usui, Kim Transier; Staff: Sara Cloe, Pat Lichen, Rev. Tracy Springberry; Guests: Rick Tangeman (Buildings and Grounds), Jay Bollman (Racial Justice), Suzanne Riles (Strategic Planning), Sulima Malzin (Sanctuary Stage)

Opening: A reading was given by Tracy as the chalice was lit. The meeting commenced at 6:40 with a visioning question. Each board meeting begins with a visioning (creative brainstorming or “heartstorming”) session.

Visioning: *How would WHUUF change if we thought of ourselves as building a more compassionate community?* Reaching out to newcomers in non-superficial ways. Spirit of co-creating beloved community (not just getting what I want). Fostering new leaders. Return of the idea of mentoring, pairing up with new people, Relational Meetings. Cornering newcomers can backfire; introverted newcomers observe members in Joys & Sorrows and discussions in Sunday Service, and choose whom to approach. Trust (going beyond smalltalk) is a risk on both sides. Coffee hour is not conducive to deep talk. Working together on projects outside the church, e.g. social justice, builds compassionate community; invite our youth too. Pick a new person and consistently talk to them instead of briefly greeting all newcomers every week. The “New to UU” class was large and successful; its members could form a chalice circle. The Membership Committee is more active in retention of New to UU attendees now than last year.

Sanctuary Stage: Sulima sent the minutes of the Sanctuary Stage committee's recent meeting earlier today. *Lovers & Patriots* (the John and Abigail Adams play) will be staged in February. The committee is considering broadening its mission beyond “activism,” though mindful that the “stage” should not outweigh the “sanctuary.” Sulima will return to the Board when the committee's Mission Statement is written. The Board approved the committee hosting two meetings after service to explain the Sanctuary Stage plan and get feedback from the congregation.

Safety & Security Committee: Rick reported this new committee consists of Ken Jay (chair), Lorraine Nevill, Sulima Malzin, and Beth Johnstone. Megan will invite Ken to update the Board at meetings.

Buildings and Grounds:

The Board met with Bruce, the architect for the RE Wing roof project, and Megan signed the contract for redesigning the roofs so they won't collect water. Megan will ask Bruce further about the 30% up-front payment, as she hears 18% is the standard. [She did. The higher percentage is because of the low total cost.]

Rick reported Costa Columbus is lining up fire extinguisher updates, repair of the roll-up door of the kitchen, and replacing the hood over the stove.

Megan has disseminated updated inclement weather procedures to those who need them, and will remind the congregation to check WHUUF's web site on snowy/icy Sunday mornings, as services may sometimes be canceled.

Rick was asked to round the sharp corner of the shelf in the bathroom near Forest Hall, a safety hazard.

Ministerial Search Process: Megan has contacted Tandi Rogers to form a timeline and a committee to lead the process explained by Duane at the well-attended meeting last month.

Racial Justice Coordinating Committee: Jay notes the RJCC deliberately has no chair. He provided a detailed plan for a 3-session series of films and discussion sessions (with soup by Sulima), "Race: the Power of an Illusion." Screenings and facilitated discussions are scheduled in January and February after service. They would be appropriate for ages 13 and up. Tracy will ask the Chalice Circles to help with cleanup. Publicity within and outside WHUUF is planned.

Archives: Mary says the Archives Committee is seeking, via eblast, volunteers to scan photos.

Strategic Planning: Suzanne improved the wording of some of the six "short-form" goals. How to publicize? Posters in the coffee room, bulletin boards, and restrooms were suggested; Felicity Shoulders is great at posters. Suzanne will contribute a newsletter article to explain the purpose of the new posters.

An idea: On the screen at the front of the sanctuary in the minutes before service, project the seven principles, our six goals (short form), and the theme of the month with quotes, rotating every minute. This would also appear on the TV downstairs. Would Felicity Shoulders and Anita Clark (Arts & Aesthetics) be able to make a PowerPoint? Overloading our technicians is an important concern; Megan will talk to Jim Leonard.

Congregational Administrator's Report: sent ahead of meeting. The eblast is now done by Pat, not Barb, and is sent out on Mondays, not Thursdays. The deadline to place announcements into the eblast is still Monday (now a week before the eblast goes out).

Treasurer's Report: sent ahead of meeting.

R.E. Director's Report: sent ahead of meeting. Young families registration is still increasing, and the newly combined junior and senior youth groups are working well.

Minister's Report: sent ahead of meeting. Tracy has met the Room-to-Grow team in two halves, with their next meeting(s) in January. The Buddhist Group is meeting Wednesday and Sunday, doubling its participation and not decreasing the Sunday parking crowd.

President's Report: Megan and Tracy will seek co-leaders and team members to replace Patrick (soon to move away) on the Stewardship Team. Joe will inform them who was on that Team last year. The pledge drive kicks off in late February.

Closing Assignments:

12/3 Maribeth

12/10 Megan

12/17 Kim

12/24 John

12/24 evening, Maribeth

12/31 Mary

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55. Our next meeting is Dec. 27.

Submitted by
Kim Transier