

DRAFT Minutes of Meeting
WHUUF Board of Trustees, Jan. 24, 2018

Present: Members: Joe Boyd, Maribeth Allen, John Riles, Mary Usui, Kim Transier;
Staff: Pat Lichen, Sara Cloe; Guests: Suzanne Riles (Planning), Rick Tangeman
(Buildings & Grounds)

Opening: A reading was given by John as the chalice was lit. The meeting commenced at 6:35 with a visioning question. Each board meeting begins with a visioning (creative brainstorming or “heartstorming”) session.

Visioning: Question from COM: *How can we help people understand the individual commitments (volunteering, sustaining pledges) needed to keep a community like WHUUF alive?* Our “buddy system” has just begun; a goal of this should be to learn about the newcomer's gifts and needs and plug them into WHUUF in a reciprocally rewarding way. Volunteer effort is an inspiration, not just an obligation. Once people feel they are part of us, pitching in seems natural. “Helping” seems easier than “working.” Some people can only occasionally come on Sundays; an experienced WHUUFer can help introduce them to Chalice Circles and other non-Sunday opportunities (eblast links offer these too). Individual variation: some new members are ready to jump in and we should “strike while the iron is hot,” but for some it's better to wait a few months.

Vote on proposed UUA bylaw: The proposal is to allow LREDA members to be delegates at General Assembly as ministers are. (LREDA = the Liberal Religious Educators professional association, i.e., Directors of Religious Education.) Currently, only Credentialed DREs can be delegates. Given that not all delegates have to physically attend, the financial impact of the change is minimal. The Board members present voted unanimously in favor (Diane and Megan were absent).

February Congregational meeting: Tracy and Steve Silver will speak for the Stewardship Committee (goals of pledge drive, highlighting the carryover of last year's goal of 75%FTE minister position. Joe will present a financial report; John will announce the Pacific Western Regional meeting coming up in Portland.

Minutes: How do we approve them? When Kim sends draft minutes, she will specify a deadline to send questions/corrections, after which the minutes are presumed “approved.” Final minutes will be posted as such 2 weeks after the meeting.

Buildings & Grounds: Rick reported on the last work party (good turnout, but mostly renters rather than WHUUF members). They cleaned debris from the parking lot, walkways and roof, patched walls, put up the TV in Forest Hall, replaced rotted boards, pressure-washing the patio, and more! WHUUFers love our grounds; B&G could create buzz about work parties by publicizing their achievements (and donuts). Pat suggests photos and a list of who did the work and what got done. Chalice Circles could take turns bringing treats and manning a check-in desk. Rick is regularly in touch with the Fire Marshal and has priced some fire safety compliance items: fire extinguisher upgrades will cost \$4.55 each, plus \$175 evaluation of fire suppression system.

Stewardship: John reported a pledge drive focus will be getting newish people active. Six cottage meetings in homes are scheduled, with one-on-one meetings still an option for those who prefer them. Theme: "Put Your Money Where Your Heart Is."

Pacific Western Region: Joe will be one delegate to this meeting in Portland April 27-29. We need at least one more. WHUUF's Training & Seminars fund could be used to cover the registration fee.

Board vacancies: John noted that Joe and Megan will rotate off this summer. We need a Vice President and a Treasurer. Nominees will be voted on in the May congregational meeting. Improving video participation so members don't always have to physically attend meetings may enlarge the pool of potential Board members (and other committee members).

Treasurer's Report: sent ahead of meeting. Expenses are slightly lower than budgeted, revenues slightly higher due to pledge income. The \$1300 for the architect (RE wing roof) came from Capital Reserves.

R.E. Director's Report: sent ahead of meeting. Sara described the need for more volunteers and committee members. Some teachers double as RE Committee members; preferably, that Committee should be extra hands and minds supplementing the teachers. The DRE ends up providing that support to teachers. Drop-in volunteers (e.g. Sign-Up Genius or clipboards) are risky for classrooms; adults who work directly with children should be background checked. Sara noted that casual volunteers are great for gathering and preparing materials, but in some cases recruiting them takes longer than doing that work herself. Suzanne observed that we lost a recruitment tool when we took Announcements out of Sunday Services (people's faces, voices, and enthusiasm are more persuasive than a printed announcement). Also, we no longer have a Volunteer Coordinator.

Minister's Report: sent ahead of meeting. Rev. Tracy is away at a workshop.

Congregational Administrator's Report: sent ahead of meeting. The newsletter and eblast will be combined starting in March.

Closing Assignments:

2/4 Kim

2/11 Diane or Megan

2/18 Mary

2/25 John

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Submitted by