Coordinating Team (CT) Minutes

March 1, 2017

Present: Rev. David Miller, Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig, Kathy Smerke Hochberg, Pete Krone, Rich Sider, Ministerial Intern Kin Sims

The minutes from the 2/15/17 meeting were approved.

Unfinished Tasks (New tasks highlighted below.)

* Rich to explore obtaining 501(c)(3) status.
* Rich to prepare a list of budget reduction options.

Ministers’ Reports

* Rev. David Miller
  + Reported on the Communities of Trust meeting he attended, along with law enforcement and political leaders, at which he had an interesting exchange about churches that provide sanctuary. He was the only minister in attendance and is considering joining the group as a way to keep in touch with local officials.
  + Attended the annual Senior Ministers of Large UU Congregations conference last week, which included productive discussions on the present and future challenges of ministry.
  + On Saturday morning, met with a group to discuss alternatives to the endorsement proposal discussed at the Feb. 5 congregational meeting.
  + Attended the anniversary dinner on Saturday night and noted that Herb and Libby Ware were honored for 50 years of UUCF membership.
  + Met with the Coming of Age youth and parents. The youth are planning their service to be held in May.
  + About 20 local clergy will attend a conversation on Thursday at Unity to discuss ministry in these times.
* Rev. Laura Horton-Ludwig
  + Attended the “Seminary for a Day” program at Cedar Lane UU, which she observed was an excellent model for continuing education. The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis.
  + About 25 people attended the Healing Service last week, which was organized and led by the Pastoral Care Team.
  + Is planning a memorial service for the father of a UUCF congregant. Her father died several years ago but a service was not able to be held at the time.
  + About 70 people attended the anniversary dinner. This year the committee decided not to assign seating and just encouraged people to sit with people they didn’t know.
  + This Sunday will be leading the first session for a spiritual direction group.
* McKinley Sims
  + Also attended the Seminary for a Day program and participated in a workshop of providing sanctuary.
  + The next young adult service project – park restoration - is this Saturday. 27 young adults are on the email list.
  + Will be preaching at Reston UU this coming Sunday.

Old Business

Annual Giving Campaign – Pete’s introductory blog was sent out on Monday and he is meeting with the lay leadership groups to get them on board with the plan for Mar. 12 and 19. He is concerned about how to handle those who won’t be able to make a pledge on the 19th so they don’t feel excluded. Pledge packets will be prepared next week.

* Congregational forum and leadership summit follow-up – Both events affirmed the need to move forward with public acts for justice**.** The Board will discuss next steps at their meeting next week but in the meantime, Susan Bennett is beginning work on spiritual grounding activities and David is working with Mary Lareau to draft guidelines and procedures for a rapid response network – how and when to use such a network and who can activate it.
* Strategic plan next steps – The CT reviewed the initiatives discussed at the leadership summit to determine which should be incorporated into the strategic plan. **Rich will work with Mary Lareau to draft strategies and action plans on the rapid response initiative, including a risk assessment component. Laura will work with Susan Bennett to draft strategies on spiritual grounding efforts.**
* Partner Church Council update – Pete briefed the CT on his conversation with PCC lay leaders about the waning volunteer involvement in the program. David reported on directional changes at the national level, which he will be discussing with UUCF PCC leaders.

New Business

* Social Justice Council Advocacy Committee – A group of UUCF congregants is organizing an advocacy committee under the Social Justice Council (SJC) and Kin asked for CT input on what authority they would have to speak on UUCF’s behalf. David clarified that the current policy allows them to speak on behalf of the SJC but if they want to speak on behalf of UUCF as a whole, they would have to conform to the process that is developing from the congregational forum and Board process. The CT also believes it is critical for the efforts of this group to be coordinated with other leadership initiatives in the public policy and action sphere.
* SJC redistricting call to action – Although this requested call to action turned out to be outdated, it illustrates the need to clarify the role of the SJC within the emerging process for UUCF leadership to take action in the public policy sphere. **David will ask the Board to consider this issue as they discuss next steps next week.**
* De-escalation and bystander intervention training – A congregant is organizing this training, which will held on Mar. 25 at UUCF, through a local Indivisible group. Kin is the UUCF staff liaison.
* Innovation Fund project – The Innovation Fund committee has approved a project and as soon as the final draft is ready, they will present to the CT. The CT will then make a recommendation to the Board.

Miscellaneous

The next meeting will be on Mar. 8 at 2:45 pm to accommodate minister attendance at the CUUMA meeting.

Prepared by Rich Sider