

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2019

Presiding: Milo Valenzuela, Vice President

Process

Observer: Peggy Hillman

Secretary: Rich Williams

Attendees: Betsy Bicknell; Ashley Rothermel; Peggy Hillman; Scott Kestner; Kaye Cook; Rev. David Miller;
Rich Williams; Scott Kestner; Milo Valenzuela, Paul Atelsek; Bill Braband; Pippin Whitaker

Check-In 7:31 PM

Spiritual Opening/Chalice Lighting: Kaye Cook

Reading from: *In the Holy Quiet of This Hour*. Meditations by Richard Gilbert

Minutes of January 15th Meeting Rich Williams

- Approved/Adopted As Amended

I. Minister's Report

Rev. David Miller

- Social Justice/New Day Rising Conference: Central East Region conference held at UUCF on January 26th. 30 congregations, represented by approximately 130 attendees. Rob Keithan of All Souls led the conference. This was a first step of many more to follow, giving exposure and voice to the struggle with the white supremacy culture.
- Communities of Trust Committee (COTC), Fairfax County: I have agreed to help working with the Anti-Defamation League for a program on January 28th. There has been an increase in D.C. in hate crimes - more specifically they have seen an increase within the LGBT community in Fairfax County. Ramona Carroll is the Interfaith Coordinator for the Fairfax County Clergy & Leadership Council (CLC). At a meeting that included representation by the FBI, I was impressed with the agency's dedication in fighting hate crimes.
- Assistant Minister Search: The initial candidate was present at UUCF for interviews yesterday (Monday, February 4th). Two additional candidates are scheduled for on-site interviews next Monday and Tuesday (February 11th and 12th). These interviews involve both the members of the search committee and UUCF staff.
- Director of Religious Exploration Search: The job was posted January 30th in the Liberal Religious Educators Association (LREDA) website. We have yet to receive any responses.
- Annual Campaign: The kickoff is scheduled for March 17th. We are on track with its planning and preparation.
- Beloved Conversations: The two-day (January 18th & 19th) opening retreat was held at the Cedar Lane UU. We are on our way to becoming designated as a Beloved Conversation congregation.
- Vagina Monologues: This production was given last Saturday at UUCF and went very well.
- Chili Cookoff: This fellowship event is this coming Saturday evening and we are hoping for a good turnout.
- Large Church Policy Governance Conversation: This will be next Sunday (February 10th) from 2-5

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p.m. at the Arlington UU church. I will be attending and invite any others to join me.

- Resilience in Faith Community: I will be giving a presentation on March 28th.
- UUMA Collegial Development Team: As chairman for this group, I will be attending their conference in Chicago on February 15th.

II. DRE Compensation

Rev. David

- The recommendation by Rev. David was for a salary range of \$60,000 to \$70,000 – negotiable based on the candidate’s credentials. This pay range is for the July 2019 to June 2020 program year. The board approved.

III. Board Auction Donation

Peggy Hillman

- The auction items must be submitted by February 17. The discussion involved offering something other than a dinner or if we again host a dinner, the timing options.
- The board approved to again have a dinner at UUCF in September (the 21st). Betsy will serve as the contact person.

IV. Congregational Meeting & Planning for Pippin’s Ordination.

- The ordination is scheduled for April 28th at 4:00 PM. Support needs for the event to be communicated.
- Regarding the Special Congregational meeting, it was recognized that there should have been better planning/consideration with respect to the RE parents/children (i.e., the coordination between keeping the children in the RE classes or allowing parents time to pick up their children before the start of the meeting). It was agreed that this should be taken into consideration for similar events in the future.

V. Youth Leadership Meeting

Pippin Whitaker

- This year, the youth have expressed an interest in understanding more broadly what is occurring within the congregation, particularly related to the board and its role.
- Engaging with the board members has been discussed with two possible ideas:
 - Spending time with the board
 - Holding a youth and youth leaders meeting with board members in a setting such as the “World Café Model” where there is a table rotation with table topics.
- Since the Youth-Adult Committee meets each month on the third Tuesday (which coincides with one of the Tuesday board meetings), the recommendation was made to have pizza party with the youth in the Social Hall before the board’s scheduled meeting. The date offered is March 19th from 6:30-8 p.m. Pippin will communicate this back to the YAC and the youth leaders.

VI. Property Easements

Bill Braband

- Due to the encroachment onto UUCF property (in particular our conservation easement) by three adjacent landowners, it has become necessary to seek a resolution. While two of the adjacent property owners would accept a temporary easement (which would revert back to UUCF upon a sale transaction) the third individual has sought a permanent land use easement. This individual has built a perimeter fence that encloses a substantial amount of UUCF property square footage.
- As an attorney who has extensive experience with property easements, Paul requested time to research this issue and provide (1) an opinion on an alternative resolution or (2) affirm the decision to provide one permanent and two temporary easements to the adjacent property owners.

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The motion to allow Paul the opportunity to research the issue further was made by Scott, seconded by Milo with board approval.

VII. White Supremacy Discussion

Pippin Whitaker

- Topic: Quantity Over Quality

Board Observations

- Though the normal (3rd Tuesday) board meeting had been canceled due to absences, it was recommended and agreed that February 19th would be dedicated to long-range planning (who will we serve; how will we serve) discussion. Furthermore, discussion was given to dedicating future 3rd Tuesday meeting dates for the white supremacy topic discussions.
- Betsy inquired as to the status of the roof repair RFP. Ashley reported that it is ready to go.

Process Observer

Peggy Hillman

- This was a great meeting with a lot of sharing among the members.

Adjourned

9:49 PM

NEXT MEETING(S)

Date: February 19, 2019
Spiritual Opening: Paul Atelsek
Process Observer: Kaye Cook

Date: March 5, 2019
Spiritual Opening: Rich Williams
Process Observer: Kaye Cook

Respectfully Submitted: Richard Williams