

UUCF Board of Directors Meeting

Aug. 4, 2020

Call to Order: 7 p.m., Aug. 4, 2020

Presiding: Mark Magee

Secretary: Meredith Carr

Attendees: Meredith Carr, Rev. David Miller, Scott Kestner, Matt Higgins, Lydia Lewis, Mark Magee, Susan Bennett, Rich Williams, Darryl Branting, Kaye Cook

Absent: None

Welcome: Mark Magee

Spiritual Opening/Chalice Reading: Darryl/All

Check-in: All

Board Minutes: Mark Magee

- The Jul. 21, 2020, minutes were accepted as edited and approved by all board members.

Minister's Report: Rev. David Miller

- Rev. David and others have been working on John Monroe's ordination, which will take place Sun., Aug. 9, and it has been a joy.
- Rev. David and others have also been working on AJ van Tine's ordination in conjunction with Sierra Foothills Unitarian Universalists in Auburn, CA.
- Rev. David was invited to facilitate the AUUMM's - Association for Unitarian Universalists Musical Ministries - conversation about their organization and its direction.
- He will be officiating Dylan Barth's wedding in October.
- The Coordinating Team (CT) is continuing to work on the budget.
- There was another meeting on Aug. 5 with all the worship professionals from UUCF, River Road and Cedar Lane churches.
- Francine York passed away.
- There are already discussions with a candidate for lay minister for Worship & Arts; in the meantime co-chairs of the committee are working on getting worship associates for the congregational year.

Budget Planning for 2020-21: All

- What values are important to frame how we discuss the budget needs to be discussed.
- We owe the congregation a budget by Oct. 1, 2020.
- We continue to find ourselves in an extraordinary situation.
- We know:
 - We are closed and that will result in a loss of income.
 - As a part of the budget process, the board and the CT are in discussion about the timing of hiring a full-time assistant minister.
 - Pledge income is below what it has been in the past.
 - We are working with the Potomac Partnership on projects. The Potomac Partnership is the name given our burgeoning relationship with the Cedar Lane and River Road congregations.
 - Our staff is fantastic.
- We don't know
 - What it will take to open campus.
 - Who the crisis is impacting and our ability to fulfill UUCF's mission.
 - How the current election cycle will further the crisis.

- We need to focus on how we serve the congregation.
- We need to have patience and grace with each other.
- We are not overstaffed and the staff is the backbone of UUCF, especially right now. Taking care of staff is an opportunity to live our values.
- We need to consider all sources of income to close the budget deficit.
- We need to fund the assistant minister position. Rev. Alice King is able to continue to assist at her current level until a new assistant minister can be hired.
- We need to create an assistant minister plan for the 2020-21 congregational year, which will help us decide when to look for an assistant minister.
- We need to look at options for what we are paying to the UUA.
- We should not dip into specially designated funds for general operating expenses.
- We need to keep the mission front and center.
- There are concerns about borrowing from either the endowment or credit line given that we do not know when the economic uncertainty will end.
- We need to look at what it means to be safe to open.
- There is currently no good or easy choice.
- There is a \$100,000 loss in rentals, possibly less as the Montessori continues to open and around a \$70,000 loss in pledges.
- Rev. David discussed the options the CT is looking at and how there needs to be a set of final numbers before a decision can be made.

- The board hopes to be able to review a final proposed budget from the CT at its next meeting.
- If we go ahead with the assistant minister process, is the election a good time to have someone new in the congregation?
- Darryl agrees to start the process of writing to the congregation regarding the budget process with an important note that we will be revisiting the budget quarterly as many situations change.

Upcoming Events:

- John Monroe's Ordination at 4 p.m., on Aug. 9, 2020
- Leading Change in Changing Times worship retreat, Aug. 22, 12-3 p.m.
- Retreat with Potomac Partnership on Sep. 12
- Board retreat TBD for September or October

Board Observations:

- Rich is working on how the board can still deliver the Auction offering.
- We need someone to chair the Generosity Team.

Process: Loved the opening, budget discussion felt a little backwards without final numbers, very little talking over people.

Next Meeting: Aug. 18, 7 p.m.

Spiritual Opening: Kaye Cook

Process Observer: Matt Higgins

Adjourn: 9:12 p.m.