

UUCF Board of Directors Meeting

Oct. 6, 2020

Call to Order: Oct. 6, 2020, 7 p.m.

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: Rich Williams

Check-in: All

Board Minutes: Postponed to the following meeting

Minister's Report: Rev. David Miller

- The Coordinating Team (CT) is working on updating the guidelines regarding campus use.
- On Oct. 25 there will be a costume/treat drive-by for congregants.
- We have started the community altar and people are adding items.
- Membership had fallen below 600 but is back up to 604.
- Bill has been working on property maintenance and preparing the grounds for fall.
- The traffic circle has been resurfaced and the parking lot has been relined. The company has some touch-ups to do but otherwise it looks great.
- Rev. David and other staff and members are creating an interfaith community group to protect voters in line at the Fairfax County Government Center on Election Day, Nov. 3.
- Tyler has passed the Ministerial Fellowship Committee.
- The assistant minister search committee met on Saturday, is updating the material needed and is hopefully going to get everything on the website in 10 days.
- Because of the timeline for interview and hiring procedure, we may not have someone able to start until Jan. 1, 2021. We are interested in allowing someone to work virtually for the time being because of the unique circumstances at this time

- Matt and Mark both bring up the need to communicate the status with the congregation.
- Rev. David is doing a wedding in 2 weeks.
- The food drive will be this coming weekend, Oct. 11.
- Rev. David will attend a UU Ministers Association web conference about the post-election situation.
- There is a Visitors Reception this weekend.
- Rev. Alice King and Rev. David are doing the offering at Rev. Amanda Poppei's installation at the UU Church of Arlington.
- The Board of Directors commissioning is on Oct. 11.

Board Assignments

#	Issue	Leading	Supporting
1	Modeling our faith: preparing for what-ifs with the congregation	Kaye	Lydia, Rich, Mark
2	Financial model not sustainable vs. current financial needs of congregation	Darryl	Meredith, Scott, Mark
3	Future of our Endowment & Endowment Fund Committee/Relationship to Generosity Team (Legacy Giving Committee)	Scott	Darryl, Mark
4	Pandemic – how and when we will get back into our facility	CT	All
5	Future of Nominating Committee & Leadership Development Team	Matt	Susan, Meredith, Mark
6	The Potomac Partnership – How can we create shared value?	Susan	Lydia, Rich, Mark
7	Anti-racism – Internal board and congregational work	Lydia	Kaye, Susan, Darryl, Mark
8	Strengthening communications between the board and congregation	Meredith	Kaye, Lydia, Matt, Rich, Mark
9	Revisiting the Ends of our Mission/Vision, in light of the above	Rich	Mark, Scott

- Everyone got back quickly and was open to being on different committees
- Thinking about plans we can put in place over the next 24 months, looking beyond that would be hard because so much is in flux.

- Not all the ideas will be put in place this year. Each group should look at both long- and short-term goals.
- We can work with our small groups and report back to the board to get feedback.
- How do we work with the groups within the congregation that are associated with these mini -groups?

Potomac Partnership

- The board presidents from the three churches have met and plan to meet again on Oct. 15 to discuss several areas of interest that we might be able to foster:
 - Working together on the 8th Principle project. Each congregation has to approve it individually, but we can work on presentations and discussion as a collective. Possibly create a committee across the three congregations that can inform their individual congregations.
 - How do we develop long-term business models that will work?
 - How are we mindful about sharing resources and how we can use the economy of scale to save money? We need to have members on board.
- Bill has met with his counterparts to look at how we might be able to share expenses on smaller projects.
- For the 8th Principle:
 - There is a list of Unitarian Universalist Association resources that the three Potomac Partnership congregations can share. It will be helpful because this is something new to everyone.
 - We need to make sure we are working with Racial and Social Justice groups at UUCF. Susan will help coordinate with them. Any 8th Principle committee would need to include people from these groups.
 - Does the denominational Connections Committee need to be involved?
- Mark will report back to the other board presidents that there is enthusiasm about these points.
- The Potomac Partnership Group has put together a note for each board to endorse regarding interviewing congregants about what they would like to see in the future. Members from one church would interview members from other churches.
- When should we start communicating some of these projects with the congregation? Mark will start work on a draft statement.
- It is noted that board work is spiritual work.

CT Assessment

- This year the committee did a conversational assessment instead of a checklist and worked with questions that reflected the extraordinary year.

- Highlighted the achievements, especially the Payment Protection Program grant, which was a major accomplishment.
- Interested in how the use of Zoom might be able to expand the volunteer pool for the CT as they look to fill the new term.
- The board and CT should meet with each other more often, perhaps quarterly, not just to talk business but also to socialize.
- The CT would like goals to work on, especially as the Strategic Plan is “over” for now.
- Each year there have always been a significant number of unexpected issues.
- Going forward with our planning will help provide the CT with goals and plans for them to implement.
- Gina said she will talk with Mark and Kathy Smerke Hochberg about restarting the Program Evaluation Committee.
- David feels the evaluation was helpful and positive.

When discussing things, we would like to focus on a “circle-based process,” making sure everyone gets a chance to share their thoughts, including checking in with people who initially passed. From this we get to a discernment circle, which helps people come to an understanding about what the problem is and how come to a solution. We may need a facilitator for this.

Board Observations:

Mark will send out the table of committees.

The team is finalizing plans for an Auction night event.

Next Meeting: Oct. 20, 2020, 7 p.m.

Spiritual Opening: Mark

Process Observer: Kaye

Process: We got through a lot of things on a packed agenda