

UUCF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Dec. 7, 2021

Call to Order: 7 p.m., Dec. 7, 2021

Presiding: Susan Bennett

Secretary: Megan Reynolds

Attendees: Susan Bennett, Megan Reynolds, Vicky Maldonado, Matt Higgins, Meredith Carr, Darryl Branting, Mark Magee, Rev. David A. Miller

Spiritual Opening/Check-In: Megan Reynolds

Proposal to Increase Siena School Lease: Bill Braband

- New lease has been negotiated for the Siena School to utilize the entire Program Building during the week.
- Board voted to approve.

Consent Agenda

- Nov. 16 meeting minutes approved.

Pandemic and Reopening: Meredith Carr and Rev. David

- Survey going out to families to determine vaccination rates and whether we can move RE indoors during the cold weather.
- Drinks are now allowed indoors.
- Omicron variant will be taken into consideration as we move forward.
- Fairfax County has over 76.7% of the population vaccinated, and hospitalizations are not going up.
- Service capacity is up to 100 people and every seat was taken for the Joy Service.

Minister's Report: Rev. David

- Experiencing difficulty finding any lay ministers for Membership and Adult Spiritual Development.
- Banner was stolen but a replacement banner has been ordered.
- Rev. Christin is leading the Land Acknowledgement Team, which is working with Fairfax County.
- Completed the Beginnings & Belonging class and signed up 10 new UUCF members.
- MLK Weekend of Service will push back against the narrative of the new governor, who plans to outlaw critical race theory in schools.

- On Dec. 19, we will have an outdoor Christmas pageant.
- On Christmas Eve, we will offer two services – 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. - and those that want can sing “Silent Night” outside while people inside can hum.
- Family Ministry Team has formed and will begin meeting in January.
- Worship Technology Committee is being led by Laura Weiss and Mary Lareau and is considering how to best utilize technology at UUCF.
- On Jan. 2, UUCF is hosting the worship service for the Potomac Partnership congregations.
- Poles supporting roof in the Sanctuary are cracking and an engineer is assessing how to fix them.

Innovation Fund Discussions

- The board discussed how to best use the \$133,000 remaining and the process needed to ensure we are following the spirit of the bequeathal.

Treasurer's Report: Darryl Branting

- Generosity Team is meeting next Thursday with a report from the Legacy Giving Committee.
- Financial Sustainability Meeting Committee will meet Dec. 9.
- Endowment Fund Committee met and shared their vision for the future
 - The subgroup will meet and discuss the recommendations and then share with the board at its next meeting.
- Rev. David just received comptroller job description and will share with the CT at next meeting.

Responses to Financial Report to the Congregation

- Darryl received a half-dozen responses and all were positive.

Discussion of *Holding Change*, pp. 113-134

- Board discussed the assigned pages and how useful they are finding the overall book as a follow-up to *Emergent Strategy*.
- We will push further discussion until January.

Sabbatical Discussion

- The board has encouraged Rev. Miller to take a long-overdue sabbatical. He is considering dates and the impact on the schedule of the congregation and will be working with the board, staff and Rev. Christin to take some time this spring. More to come.

Emergent Strategy: Church of the New

- Rev. David is pulling together a cross-sectional meeting after the first of the year.
 - Susan and one other board member will represent the board and will use the chart to represent the board's ideas at the cross-sectional meeting.
- Feb. 26 is the follow-up to the Leadership Meeting.

Big Questions: Mark Magee

- Mark highlighted the important points of the first session, which was also shared in a Google doc for the board to review.
- Next step is to establish a timetable for possible focus groups/congregational meeting, which will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Board Observations:

- Jan. 23 proposed for a Town Hall.

Process Observer: Mark Magee

- The group continues to be respectful of one another, and the hybrid meeting was effective.

Next Meeting: Jan. 4 in person and via Zoom

Spiritual Opening: Susan Bennett

Process Observer: Vicky Maldonado

Adjourned: 9:02 p.m.