

UUCF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Mar. 7, 2023

Call to Order: 7 p.m., Mar. 7, 2023

Presiding: Susan Bennett

Secretary: David Michael (substituting for Victoria Maldonado)

Attendees: Susan Bennett, Lydia Lewis, Stacy Casey, Kaye Cook, Megan Reynolds, Meredith Carr, David Addis, David Michael, Rev. Christin C. Green

Chalice Lighting: David Michael

Check-In

Consent Agenda

- Feb. 21, 2023 Minutes
 - Meredith moved to accept the minutes as written; Susan seconded the motion with unanimous approval from the board.

Nested Bowls: Lydia Lewis

- The Reflection and Visioning subgroup is preparing to envision our strategic work going forward. An animated discussion ensued, with board members supporting the idea of exploring sources of authorities, values, mission and ends with the congregation.
- One suggestion was for the board to invite the Emergent Strategy Planning Group (ESPG) to update the board.
- Note: Congregational conversation event with the ESGP to be held on May 21.
- Note: Discussion of a budget meeting with the congregation to be held by mid-May.

Minister's Report: Rev. Christin

- LoveFest was so much fun and was a really successful event. It brought us all together and raised funds for the Coming of Age trip.
- Timothy Johnson's vigil – his mother and pastor spoke, a good turnout.
- Siena School hearing (traffic pattern) – many questions were asked, and it's moving forward. September 2024 is when the work needs to be completed.
- Oakton Community Association is attempting to install a sidewalk from the park to UUCF. We indicated UUCF's supportive. They will forward us a survey; the Coordinating Team (CT) supports this.
- Staff proposals for the budget are due tomorrow.
- A swing band for the Auction has been arranged.
- Healing service will be held this Friday. Pastoral Care has worked hard on it.

- Laura and Rev. Christin discussed the possibility of an additional award for people who embody the spirit of UUCF. (Some discussion followed that the Founders Award and the Congregational Treasure Award may meet this purpose, at least in part.)
- The new AV person, Ben Mellott, is being on-boarded and is participating on Sundays and at other events. It's going well and he will recommend improvements.
- The campus internet – Bill is using a hotspot. Still exploring backup internet solutions. The board would like to include this in a future meeting.

New Member of Financial Oversight Committee (FOC): David Michael

- Upon reaching out to the Leadership Nominating Committee (LNC) for suggestions for a lay member for the FOC, Craig Bennett recommended Mark Monson, a member with Virginia state government budgeting experience. David explained to Mark the FOC scope, members and meeting responsibilities, and Mark indicated his interest in the position. David moved that Mark be named to the FOC: Lydia seconded the motion. The board approved the motion unanimously.

Siena School Permitting Update: Susan Bennett

- People coming from Reston on Hunter Mill Road will need to drive down to the circle and drive back. It's 2 minutes.
- Temporary banners (all three along the campus border with Hunter Mill Road) are supposed to be temporary. In the agreement with the Fairfax County, the signs need to be 25 feet from the property line. Bill will replace the sign and relocate it.

Article II Forums: Kaye Cook

- A discussion forum will be held on Sunday after service and virtually on Monday. Snacks will be provided. The purpose is to give people an opportunity to express their perspectives. There will be brief opening remarks and handouts, followed by comments. Many board and LNC members are involved in supporting this meeting. A 3-minute limit will be set for each person's remarks; after everyone has an opportunity to speak, second opportunities will be offered. The meeting is planned to last up to 2 hours.

Congregational Awards: Susan Bennett

- We need to begin thinking about recipients for the Founders Award, Birnbaum Volunteer Service Award, Bill Welch RE Award and the Sollenberger Social Justice Award. We need to reach out to the Religious Exploration Committee (REC) and the Social Justice Advisory Team. Meredith will contact the REC and the Social Justice Advisory Team; Rev. Christin will reach out to the CT.

Board Observations

- Meredith noted that we remain short on volunteers, as people haven't all returned to volunteering yet. We need to find a way to make volunteering as important as funding. One idea is for LNC members to explain the stages of development from the pulpit. Another is to explain that these volunteer jobs are a limited-time commitment. Can we quantify the number of volunteer hours donated?

- David Addis had a conversation with Ben, the new AV Tech, who will have some recommendations to discuss with Rev. David.
- David Addis raised the need to address the issue of stable Wi-Fi connectivity more fully. Some discussion followed about the source and scope of the problem and how to solve it. One query is whether the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints next door to the UUCF property is also having similar issues. The board discussed the possibility of requesting the CT to appoint a team to undertake an assessment that would provide:
 - A detailed assessment of the problem,
 - Securing of proposals from multiple vendors and
 - Cost proposals and sources of funding.

Process Observer: Meredith Carr

- We did a really good job. Several interconnected conversations were held. Very relevant and technical discussions. Article II discussions were also productive.

Next Meeting: Mar. 21, 2023, 7 p.m., via Zoom

Chalice Lighting: Stacy Casey

Spiritual Opening: Megan Reynolds

Process Observer: Lydia Lewis

Adjourned: 8:52 p.m.