

# **UUCOV Board of Trustees**

## **Minutes of July 16, 2020 Meeting**

### Call to Order

- President Pam MacFarlane called the meeting to order via zoom at 9:30 a.m. with opening words.
- Chalice lighting
- Members present: Pam MacFarlane, Jack Head, Dave Lyon, Ken Boysworth, Steve Leapley, Nancy Janssen, and Claire Harrison. Also present, Reverend Dennis McCarty and Reverend Khleber. Quorum met.

### Director of Religious Education Task Force Report

- Bonnie Norton, Chair, joined the meeting via zoom. Bonnie reviewed the process utilized by the Task Force in soliciting candidates for the position. Discussed response to advertisements and outreach efforts. Recommendation of the Task Force is to hire Kathy Avery, current Acting DRE, for the position. Following questions and discussion, Steve Leapley made the recommendation seconded by Ken Boysworth to accept the report of the DRE Task Force. Motion passed unanimously.
- Bonnie was thanked for her work and that of the Committee.

### Check In

- Pam announced that she and Richard Palmer are getting married September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hearty congratulations were extended by all.

### Thank You Notes

- Thank you note will be sent to the DRE Task Force.

### Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved as distributed via email.

### Monthly Reports & Correspondence

- President's Report – As distributed via email and attached.
- Vice-President's Report – As distributed via email and attached.
- Minister's Report – As distributed via email and attached.
- Treasurer's Report – As distributed via email and attached. Dave noted that spending is substantially lower than budgeted. Nancy asked whether given our stable financial picture we should continue to apply for COVID funding she has been pursuing at this point. Ken asked whether or not the funds being applied are a loan and if so would a congregational vote be needed to accept them. Pam does not feel a congregational vote is needed at this time. Nancy will continue exploring funding should it become available.

### Membership

With Marsha French's passing, we have lost one member and there are no new members at this time. Linda Underwood reports that several new people are attending virtual services and keeping in touch with UUCOV.

### Old Business

- Host UUCOVfee Hour – Jack will resend invitation via SignUp Genius. Jack and Pam spoke of process and responsibilities of cohosting. Need more people to sign up.
- UUA Annual Dues 2021 & Response from UUA - Dave reviewed background related to this issue. For May FY'20, our payment due for last fiscal year was \$17,522 included in our approved FY'20 budget. UUA notified us earlier this year that our FY'21 UUA dues would be \$19,274, roughly a 10% increase. Dave contacted UUA explaining our revised reduced budget due to COVID. UUA is now proposing a full

honored pledge for current fiscal year of \$14,456 with 25% being paid in May 2021. Dave Lyon made the motion seconded by Steve Leapley to pay this renegotiated amount. Steve expressed his belief of it not being vital that we remain an honor congregation. Jack questioned whether this could be re-examined if need be at a later time. Understanding is it can be revisited and vote today reflects our intent at this point. Motion passed unanimously.

- Board Liaisons to Committees Reports - Steve reports work is continuing on obtaining emergency contact information and pastoral care group is meeting. Dave reports a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 1:00 pm via zoom. There are differing opinions from Committee members on where/how to invest. Claire reports link to our approved Board minutes are now included *Happenings*. No other reports at this time.
- Bank Empowerment Program – A little over \$18,000 has been raised so far. Goal is to present check to the Laurel Community Center at beginning of August. Any Board member wishing to donate in honor and appreciation of Linda Underwood are asked to send check directly to Dave.
- Selection of New Director of Religious Education – Current contract with Kathy Avery is active until October. Given that Reverend Khleber has only recently returned from sabbatical, it was suggested we table this item until our September meeting. Ken Boysworth made the motion seconded by Dave Lyon to table this agenda item until our September meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

### New Business

- Financial Team – Joel Morrison has agreed to serve as Team Chair.
- ShOUT – Sheila Knaust has agreed to chair this Committee. UUA has extended deadline to renew Welcoming Status.
- Charitable Giving Commitment – Given that Backpack Kids is currently inactive, the Committee's recommendation is to send any August donations to Interfaith Alliance. Following discussion, it was agreed that rather than Interfaith Alliance, any donations made in August be sent to All Faiths Food Bank as Backpack Kids is one of the programs under their sponsorship.

### Other Business

- Needs of Committees – Bev Morrison has rescinded her resignation as representative on the VICA Board. However, need for active volunteer participation and leadership continues to be an issue. Chairs still needed for: Stewardship, Worship Support, Denominational Liaison. Committee members continue to be needed to serve on ARE, Worship Support, and Administration.
- Planning in a New Normal – Communal activities and fund raising will continue to require the attention of the Board, teams, and committees in the days ahead.
- Elders Stand for Fair Elections – Letter received from Helen Ham asking UUCOV to become involved in these efforts. Following discussion, it was agreed this was not something for us to become involved in given its political nature.
- UUCOV Wish List – A number of items have been suggested including: handicap accessible equipment (i.e., special stair lift for access to chancel), picnic benches, new AV system, replacement of window treatments, creation of a labyrinth as ideas for future giving. Item for discussion at our August 20<sup>th</sup> Board retreat.
- Letter from Montessori School – Dave reported on having received a letter from Montessori school regarding their planned expansion and their hosting of a neighborhood meeting. Dave will contact the school's administrator to discuss and will report back at our next meeting.
- UUCOV Mission – Reverend Khleber raised the question of how our mission as a congregation may have changed as a result of COVID. How do we adapt, grow, and sustain during these times? Are there ways we can be connecting with neighbor churches and others to better collaborate our efforts? Reverend Khleber is working on organizing recorded guest ministers for weeks when he is not leading our video service. Concerns exist about timelines for initiating live streaming as there are complex issues to insuring this is well being successfully done. Again, all issues for further discussion at Board retreat and ongoing.

- Farewell to Reverend Dennis and Our Thanks – Appreciation to Reverend Dennis for all he did as Sabbatical Minister during these most challenging times. Reverend Dennis voiced appreciation for the work of the congregation and its many strengths.

#### Next Meeting

- No Board meeting scheduled for August. Next scheduled meeting will be held Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. via zoom.

#### Adjournment

- Reverend Dennis read closing words. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claire Harrison, Secretary