

**UUCSC Board of Directors
Minutes of the Zoom Meeting (approved via e-mail)
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
6PM-8PM**

Present: President Natalie Herbermann, VP Mary Fulton, Treasurer Mary Alice Kimball, Clerk Linda Dupuis, Kai Migliaccio, Nancy Dean, Rosemary Galiani, Dave Hurdis, Bill Rodriguez, Rev. DL Helfer.

Call to Order/Reading of the Covenant: 6:05 PM Natalie Herbermann.

Invocation: Rev. DL Helfer.

MOTION: Natalie Herbermann moves to ratify the minutes for the August 19, 2020, Board Meeting as approved by email. **Seconded. Passed unanimously.**

Staff Reports:

DRE Report: Lee Cowan via e-mail. Printed copy on file with the Board clerk.

The RE Committee met; a decision was made to continue virtual RE Sunday mornings from 9-10AM. This will include activities for the children as well as a parent support group. A weekly newsletter will be linked from the *UUCSC News and Updates*.

Congregational Administrator's Report: Sue Rogala via e-mail. Printed copy on file with the Board Clerk. Sue Rogala reports that she has been adjusting to working from home, and meeting with Rev. DL Helfer Mary Alice Kimball and Sky Kimball, who are helping her to transition to duties of her new job. She will be checking the mailbox on Wednesdays.

Music Directors Report: Michael Galib via e-mail. Printed copy on file with the Board Clerk. Michael Galib describes the lengthy process of preparing music for the video services, including assembling the choir recordings, and his goals for the choir and music for the congregation for this challenging time.

Minister's Report: Rev. DL Helfer via e-mail. Printed copy on file with the Board Clerk.

Rev. DL Helfer reports that he has been busy orienting two new staff members, planning worship for the year, preparing for a course on the 7 Principles, and dealing with the challenges and frustrations of our ongoing isolation due to COVID-19.

Board Calendar and Retreat: Natalie Herbermann presented the 2020/2021 calendar which will be reviewed by Board members and who will submit possible corrections.

The Board of Directors retreat was discussed:

1. Date for the Fall retreat was set for Saturday, Oct. 24 from 1PM-3PM via Zoom.
2. Possible subjects to be discussed at the retreat:
 - a. Taking the pulse of the congregation: what are the needs of the congregants, are people having financial problems so they can't make pledges.
 - b. Reactions to the Annual Meeting; what topics were raised.
 - c. Liaison positions will be assigned.

- d. Fundraising options.
- e. How to encourage congregants to participate in church activities.
- f. Should we extend the closure of live meetings after December 2020.
- g. Establish a pandemic task force to plan for reopening after Covid 19.
- h. Consider people who are alone: pastoral care checks are ongoing; events such as the 7 Principle course will give people a chance to connect. Phone conference calls were suggested.
- i. Fun activity

Coordinating Council: will start in November, 2020; a tentative date is Nov. 11; Natalie will ask Etta Zasloff to put a notice in the *UUCSC News and Updates*.

Social Justice update: Rosemary Galliani reported.

1. Dining for Woman has raised \$25,000.
2. Social Justice Huddle meets via Zoom; efforts are focused on the general election in November.
3. The Anti-racism task force: Loren Spears will join the group for a discussion of social justice for Indigenous People.
4. Equal Exchange: Rosemary is taking orders and delivering products to homes.
5. Mary Alice Kimball said that there may be a way to do an online donation for Share the Plate.

Personnel update: Rev. Helfer discussed the recent hiring of Sue Rogala as Congregational Administrator, and Lee Cowan as RE Director. Their contact information is available on the UUCSC website. They will be invited to attend the October Board meeting. Sue Rogala will attend the Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Alice Kimball. Printed copies are on file with the Board clerk.

Mary Alice Kimball discussed the Annual Budget which will be presented for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

Other topics discussed:

1. Sue Rogala has financial experience and will be able to take on some finance tasks from Mary Alice Kimball.
2. Mary Alice Kimball discussed the recent Zoom congregational budget meeting.
3. Letters have gone out to 30 people who have made a pledge in past, but who have not yet pledged for 2020/2021.
4. Conversion from an oil-based heating system to natural gas will cost \$13,300, including connecting the system and removing oil tanks. This will prevent a possible disastrous oil leak.
5. A donation of \$200 was received for "audio enhancement or any other need." This may be moved to the music enhancement fund; Rev. Helfer and Michael Galib have spent at least \$200 on audio equipment.
6. The Finance Committee is working toward setting up online giving; a plan will be presented at the annual meeting. Security is a concern; our website needs to be secure.
7. An energy saving assessment was done by National Grid. Lighting in the building needs to be upgraded; net cost would be \$3000, but would result in a significant yearly savings on the electric bill. The plan will be presented at the Annual Meeting. Natalie

Herbermann will get in touch with Alice Buckley who may be consulted for a second opinion.

Bylaws revisions: were presented at the congregational Zoom meeting on Sunday. The revised Bylaws will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting-Sept. 27, 2020 at 11:30AM via Zoom

1. Board members should encourage UUCSC members to attend.
2. A quorum will be 38-39 attendees.
3. Martina Muller will assist with the check-in and counting votes. Sky Kimball will assist with questions; Karen Ellsworth will also assist.
4. Raised hands will be used to count votes; the UUA discourages use of the polling format.
5. Natalie Herbermann will investigate how to handle call-in votes.

Adjourned: 7:45PM

The next Board meeting will be on October 21, 2020 from 6-8PM via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Dupuis, Clerk