

UUCSC Board of Directors Meeting (held via Zoom)—Final Copy
April, 21 2021- Wednesday 6PM-8PM
Approved by email 5/03/2021

Present: President Natalie Herbermann, VP Rosemary Galiani, Treasurer Mary Alice Kimball, Clerk Elizabeth Donovan, Nancy Dean, Bill Rodriguez, Rev. DL Helfer, DRE Lee Cowan

Call to Order 6:05 PM: Natalie Herbermann

Invocation: Rev. DL Helfer

Moment of celebration for the racial justice work of UUCSC, the passing of the 8th Principal and the success of the auction. Natalie and DL

MOTION: Mary Alice Kimball moves to ratify the minutes for the March 17, 2021 Board Meeting as approved by email. Seconded by Natalie Herbermann. Passed unanimously.

Discussion of issues related to “soft opening” of UUCSC to allow small groups to meet.

- Lee Cowan presented her proposal for starting outside meetings of small groups of congregants.
- Mike Galib was not in attendance, but his thoughts and proposal were included in a document shared with the Board.
- Any opening must have set rules that are followed. Issues related to this include but are not limited to: Mandatory mask wearing and social distancing, bringing own chairs, bathroom use, # family groups vs. # of people, continuing to offer virtual access, no food or drink served, making everyone feels included, current Dept. of Health Guidelines
- It was decided to use “Reopening Follen Church: Updated Covid-19 Safety Policy” as a template. Board members asked to offer their suggestions for edits to this document before April 28th at which time a follow-up meeting will be held. (April 28, 7-8pm, Zoom)

Updates and staff reports, Rev. DL Helfer

- Staff Reports--DRE Report: Lee Cowan via e-mail; Administrator’s Report: Sue Rogala via e-mail; Minister’s Report: Rev. DL Helfer via e-mail. Music Director Mike Galib on month-long leave. Printed copies of all on file with the Board Clerk.
- Discussion of proposal by DL to go to 60% time.
 - DL will be entering a two-year Masters of Social Work program at RIC; the program has a strong social justice component.

- DL said they wanted to assure members that this is not a “way out”
- Churches turning to less full-time ministry
- It would be necessary for UUCSC to simplify things; some things would need to be let go; other people would need to step up
- DL submitted a document outlining what he could and couldn't do at 60%
- DL suggested writing a letter to the congregation

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

Highlights:

- Auction—raised \$10,730 (including \$5K anonymous donation); \$4K in goods sold; several Board members offered to work on thank you notes, making sure donors and buyers get connected and assisting with distribution of goods as necessary.
- Facilities—Great work! Special kudos to Jean Burke who persisted with National Grid until it was found that UUCSC was being billed at commercial rate instead of nonprofit rate. We have received a \$5K credit with Nat'l Grid.
- Mailbox—new larger, locked mailbox has been purchased to handle mail being dropped off by congregants.
- Draft budget—to be received by Board on May 5th
- Pledges lower by \$10K at this point

Staff issue—Sue Rogala has informed DL and Natalie that she will be leaving the position of Financial Administrator in November.

Adjourn 8:10 PM

The next Board meeting will be: Wednesday, May 19, 2021 from 6-8PM via Zoom. Meeting to focus on the budget

Dates of note:

April 28—Meeting to finish guidelines for opening for outside small gatherings

May 5—Draft budget to Board

May 12—Coordinating Council Meeting

May 19—May Board Meeting

June 13—Annual Meeting

June 16—BOD meeting to focus on laying framework for criteria for fall gatherings

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Donovan, Clerk