

UUCSC Board of Directors Meeting

June 5, 2024 via Zoom

Present: President Nancy Richman VP Trish Hindley, Clerk Mary Fulton, Treasurer Mary Alice Kimball, Directors, Kelsey Briggs, Bethany Sorrentino, Russell Stokes and Rev. Denis Letourneau Paul

Call to Order: 6:05 PM by Nancy Richman

Reading of the Covenant: Nancy Richman

MOTION: Nancy moves to ratify the May Board minutes that were approved via email. **PASSED**

Staff reports: Appended.

Treasurer's report: The cash position is good with 99% of pledges paid. The Finance committee has dwindled but there is a new prospect who may be qualified, and interested, in becoming the treasurer. A chair is still needed for Finance.

OLD BUSINESS

Trish Hindley reported that the Nancy Rose Dining for \$ auction has raised nearly \$11,000. The \$350 paid to the website is good for a full year so another auction may be considered.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion was begun as to how to handle the resignation of the music director who will be leaving 12/31/2024. Conversations with the director, congregation and choir will be needed to determine how best to proceed.

2. The current bylaws were reviewed to determine if they should be revised in order to more fully reflect how the Board wants to operate. Proposed revisions would require a congregational vote in order to be accepted. Three revisions were voted on for presentation but more discussion, particularly about selecting or appointing chairs of committees, is needed before calling a business meeting.

MOTION: Russell Stokes moves to remove item B4 of Article 6 on page 2 as standing rules have not been established for Board meetings.
PASSED unanimously.

MOTION: Nancy Richman moves that item BF of Article 13 be revised to indicate that Robert's Rules would be required only for the Annual meeting.
PASSED unanimously.

MOTION: Nancy Richman moves that the sentence "No person shall serve more than three consecutive full one-year terms as chair of the same committee." be removed from Articles 8 and 9.

PASSED unanimously.

3. UUCSC can assign 3 member delegates and 2 staff delegates to the UUA General Assembly that begins June 20. Mary Fulton has been certified as a member delegate but no one else has indicated an interest in serving. UUCSC could still certify 2 more delegates if someone steps forward.

4. The summer schedule for the Board will include a relationship building potluck on July 3rd. Families will be invited and no business will be conducted at this meeting.

Adjourned 7:55 PM

Mary Fulton, Clerk

Next Board meeting: July 3 in person potluck

Annual meeting June 9, 2024 11:15 am

**Minister's Report to the Board of Directors
UU Congregation of South County
Rev. Denis Paul**

May 29, 2024

Dear Members of the Board of Directors,

Since my last report, I've led the following services:

4/28 "Between Balance and Extremes," with Lee Cowan

5/5 "Sometimes the Bug," with Bina Holtzman

5/12 "Sarah and Hagar," with Adrian Evan's

5/26 "Your Humble Servant," with Michelle Stage

As the end of the congregational year fast approaches, here are my thoughts on three areas of ministry:

Worship Life

The worship committee has done a great job lining up interesting and engaging services for the summer, and I'm always happy to support them. We've had to rearrange some of our planned services in August in order to accommodate guest speakers, the schedules of worship committee members, and my presence with the Wunder Academy of Metamorphosis. We will continue to use

Soul Matters in the coming year. The folks who have so graciously taken on the role of creating art for the front of the sanctuary have agreed to change the installation every two months instead of every month.

The May 11 grounding meeting of the worship assistants went well, and it looks like one of the new worship assistants – Michelle Stage – will be joining us more often. These regular sessions, for members of the worship committee and those who assist us without being on the committee, are proving to be really helpful. Each time we gather and discuss another part of the liturgy, everyone gains more depth of understanding and greater comfort with leading service. I'm getting lots of positive feedback, from worship leaders and attendees alike.

Congregational Life

Planning for "The Wunder Academy of Metamorphosis" each week reveals more amazingness in this upcoming program, which is brimming with ideas, input and involvement from members and friends all across the congregation.

I am construing to work on Adult continuing education curricula for next year, focused on UU rituals, practices and theologies first, and still have to schedule something for the fall, most likely October.

Seven new members joined in May. I've had one to one conversations with all of them. I can happily report that there are others getting ready to join, and more newcomers each week. The more we focus on meeting the needs of the community and our members and friends (rather than "recruiting new members") the better we seem to do.

Involvement is deepening. Generosity is deepening. I have a good feeling about our probability of closing the budget gap in the coming year.

Community Life

UUCSC is allowed three delegates to vote during general sessions (formerly called plenary) at General Assembly (GA) in late June, and so far only one person has expressed interest and signed up: Mary Fulton. Lee and I as professional staff are automatic delegates in addition to the three allotted. We've also signed up. Because GA is all-virtual this year, it's super affordable, and since a big part of my professional expenses budget goes toward GA, I've used that account to pay all three registrations.

It doesn't look like we'll be participating in North Kingstown Pride on 6/2, though we are still planning on being present at South County Pride in Wakefield on 6/22 in the midst of GA.

Housekeeping

My next furlough week is June 11-16.

No funds have been disbursed from the AGAPE fund since my last report.

In Peace,

Rev. Denis Paul

May 2024

DRE Report

Dear Board,

Our May Day celebration on May 1st was so wonderful. I look forward to that being a tradition at UUCSC. We had probably 50 people of all ages making flower crowns, eating yogurt parfaits, dancing around two May Poles and watching the magic of violet lemonade. I can't wait for next year.

And our RE Service on May 19th was really great as well. I love that we were able to include so many different voices from RE. We honored the littlest OWL kids and the DnD Middle schoolers as well as the adults that made those two programs happen. We honored Saylor, graduating from High School soon. And I loved that we had so many different ways for people to be involved beyond sharing just words. Thank you to all the families for making it so special.

Meanwhile, in Wunder Academy land, we are having our volunteer orientation today where the adults who are involved will be creating their own characters! I'm so excited. We also have a beautifully filled in schedule, thanks to Nancy with so many plans, thanks to everyone's great ideas. Rev. Denis is having a friend design a shirt for us, we're starting to gather materials, families are registering. We have 6 kids registered so far with 7 more definitely signing up. We still have 6 kids whose families are undecided. Also, I'm personally very excited about raising giant silk moths. We have Luna moth and Polyphemus moth caterpillars happily munching away, growing so much each week and will be making chrysalises in August/September. I'm hoping the kids will get to see them emerge!

I've been hosting a Middle School hang out time on Wednesdays the last three weeks where kids are invited to just drop in and hang out. We're hoping that Andrew will be able to join us for the next few weeks so they can continue their DnD campaign.

I also got to sit in on a little kid play group in the nursery with Kelsey and Danielle. I love that they can come enjoy the space during the week. :)

We had a sweet and simple Flower Communion last week. We're planning another TFAA at the end of June to honor and celebrate Simon, who will be leaving his staff position in RE to go to college at the end of the summer.

And we'll have our last congregational dinner at the end of June as well. I'm looking forward to celebrating the end of the congregational year with everyone! And I'm really looking forward to summer ;)

Take care all,

Lee

Office Administrator Board Report, June 2024

Special Events

The main focus of my efforts this month, outside of my usual tasks, has been lots of preparatory work to compile the packet for the annual meeting June 9th. Thanks to all the committee chairs who got their reports to me on time.

In addition, I provided coordination and support for the annual D4\$+ auction

Facilities

I coordinated with Ed Burrell and Mike Bilecki to facilitate granting access to the building to various people to get estimates for the new roof and other facilities work.

The Al-Anon group that had inquired about using the Oneto Room last month found a different space to meet.

Ongoing

I continue to work with Etta on the newsletter and website, and to take care of the mail,

email and phone messages and getting the bills to Karen St. Peter, in addition to producing the weekly order of service.

Best,

Sara Kaplow

Office Administrator

June 2024

FA Report to the Board

Dear Board Members,

Next week, Mary Alice and I will be meeting in order to review the month of May's reconciliation reports. As always, we keep a close eye on ensuring all transactions have been coded correctly (i.e., every deposit and debit is attributed to the correct account). As we approach the end of the fiscal year, I will also be working with Mary Alice to ensure all year-end financial activities take place, such as issuing 1099s and W2s and preparing for the new fiscal year budget. Various financial reports will be generated and used for FinCom as well as the UUA.

Kindest Regards,

Karen