

**TVUUC Board of Directors Meeting  
October 16, 2016**

Present: Elnora Williams, Ann Barber, Kathy Bohstedt, Barbara Taylor, Joe Viglione, Robby McMurry, Marco Castaneda, Laurie Knox, Lynne Mullins, John McNair, Denise Coleman, Bill Myers, Rev. Chris Buice (Ex Officio)

Absent: Jeff Kovac, Claudia Pressley (ex officio)

Guests: Lauren Hulse, Ken Stephenson, Lance McCold, Valerie Horner, Yvonne Rogers

12:45-Opening Words- Lynne Mullins

**Board Monitoring Reports:**

- **Safety Committee**- Heather Dodge, Chair, (Board Member Liaison- Ann Barber)  
There was little to report. There are three volunteers remaining. John Mashburn takes the leadership role in this endeavor aided by Jen Hamilton and Natalie Levaseur.  
The money previously earmarked for Sunday Morning Sexton was thought to be better used elsewhere. Training has never been a part of the job. Claudia supervised the weekday sextons who are hired on an ad hoc basis.  
The Knoxville Police Dept has an open invitation to provide us training and plan.  
We (Bill Myers and Ann Barber) will approach Chris and Claudia and discuss further review of this issue and possible including this in the discussion of Safe Congregation Policy. Lauren pointed out that greeters and welcome table volunteers are not apprised of this function.
- **Endowment Committee**- Ken Stephenson, Chair, (Board Member Liaison- Kathy Bohstedt). Ken presented the report (distributed). October is endowment month. At the end of the month the project will be introduced for this year, with proposals due by mid-January. They have learned from this year's project, as Leslie Gengosian has given a great deal of time to the inception of the imported sound system. Others have also contributed.  
Also this year the Committee will look at moving some funds. There is a group who want to look at re-establishing the eternal flame. They may establish a fixed amount.

Prior to leaving the Board meeting, Bill Myers and Ann Barber volunteered to assist the Endowment Committee.

- **Membership**- Lauren Hulse, Membership and Communications Coordinator, (Board Member Liaison- Laurie Knox)

A report was sent previous to the meeting. Lauren noted that there is no current job description. While not specifically noted to Lauren, her report targeted the "ends" in the Board's goals statement.

Lauren stated that they are trying to figure out how membership and communications intertwine. This work also helps newcomers connect to the church.

Lauren thinks of her work as being "connections". She wants to organize training with welcomes as welcoming as a social justice issue. She is hoping the young adult group is being revitalized. She acts as liaison to the SURJ organization. A subgroup of this group is working on a curriculum. In the early months, follow-up with visitors is a focus. Increasing accessibility of information as to how to become a member is also important. They have completed the first round of UU 101 (journey to membership process) groups to act as preparation to join the church. She is networking with a larger UU group of membership professionals on a curriculum. Finalization of the job description will be completed by the end of this church year. She works with DLRE Loya.

Elnora noted that gaining members, retaining members and knowing how many members are really active members, where they live, etc will be important. Many functions of the church depend on this knowledge.

Chris stated that we have 368 members. We are down to the number we had prior to the shootings.

Bill Myers stated that "Box" is a business application that may meet our needs. There is a fee for this if you are not an individual. Joe noted that Claudia is also looking at computer applications.

We recognized that this will be an administrative function.

Robby M and Kathy B volunteered to help with the parameters of our needs for this information.

Kathy Bohstedt moved and Barbara Taylor seconded that we have a database that will be able to be flexible for various needs across the congregation (e.g., directory, stewardship, etc.) and have different levels of access. The motion was carried.

**Approval of September Minutes-** Laurie Knox, Elnora Williams  
The minutes were accepted as provided.

**Treasurer's Report-** Joe Viglione (Report distributed and discussed)  
Robby has been working with the audit. November 15th is the target date for the auditor to have all the data reports they has requested.

**Update re Assisted Transportation & Volunteers/Service-** John McNair

John reported that presently residents at Shannondale and The Atria are receiving transportation services. Russell Dern and John McNair are driving the Council for Aging vehicle. The Council has other vehicles should our member needs change.  
Elnora noted this is a high maintenance and much needed service.

**End Statement Objectives Review Update-**Denise Coleman, Elnora Williams

Jeff Kovac (chair), Lance McCold, Frony Ward and two as yet unnamed young adults are also involved.  
The Committee has been named the Vision and Action Plan Committee and AB Coleman is a consultant volunteer.  
Denise reported that she has been categorizing the ideas. The Strategic Focus idea is the financial status of the church. The Vision Action Plan will be presented at the May Congregation Meeting for approval.

**Racial Justice: "Where are we Now?" Update-** Elnora Williams, Chris Buice

Chris reported that Gordon Gibson and Judy Gibson are receiving the Whitney Young Lifetime Achievement Award from the Urban League. It happens that Young was a UU.

We have members supporting SURJ and the group meets at the church.

Chris stated we have many take-aways from recent meetings. Chris would like to revitalize the Forum opportunities here at the church. We can look at different strategies/groups to offer our congregation ways to contribute that speak to their own styles to meet the question: "Where do I fit?"

**Other Business:**

**Volunteer Awards-** Elnora stated that we have plaques to be given to the Gift Card Committee that will be awarded these during a Sunday service.

Valerie Horner discussed some of the issues related to the **Rummage Sale**. She discussed current storage, advertising to get volunteers, picking up the items, and date-of-sale volunteers. They try to pre-test all battery operated and electrical devices in advance of pricing. They try to accommodate drop-off services. The next Rummage Sale will be end of April 2017. The group is open to suggestions for additions or improvements.

**Board contribution to the Auction** (Barbara Taylor);

Ideas were discussed and it was agreed that we contribute an "Ethnic Foods Basket" to support our diversity initiative. Barbara will procure and arrange the basket.

2:25- Closing Words- Lynne Mullins

Adjourned

**Next Meeting- November 20, 2016**