

TVUUC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: Sunday, September 21, 2014

Members Present:

Alan Moore
Chris Buice
Cindy Moffett
Grier Novinger
Heather Finney
John Mashburn
Kate Benson
Kathy Bohstedt

Lance McCold
Laurie Knox
Linda Randolph
Mary Jo Holden
Maureen McBride

Members Absent:
Marco Castaneda

Guests:

Jane Raparelli
Jon Coffee
Natalie LeVasseur
Sue Evans

1. Opening Words

Linda Randolph called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM. Sue Evans gave opening words on the word of the year, "humility." Some items were addressed out of this order but are recorded in the order of the agenda.

2. Minutes

Minutes for the Aug. 17 board meeting were approved as corrected by the Secretary.

3. Budget Report

Maureen presented the budget report. Income was down a bit for the month, but it is fine for the year to date. We have about \$11,000 as a windfall from the dissolution of Laurel School; following the finance committee's recommendation, the board voted unanimously to put the money in the contingency fund.

Pledges peak three months of the year, so the committee is going to work toward flowing the monthly budget to reflect these peaks rather than averaging income evenly throughout the year. This will give a better idea of how the budget stands as the year goes.

The finance committee has begun developing the 2015-16 budget and will have numbers for the October board meeting. It will be challenging to mesh a flat income with escalating expenses.

At the next board meeting, gift cards will be available for purchase.

Heather suggested that once a month, after a service, she and/or Maureen discuss the budget with the congregation. This effort will be for both transparency and to better inform the congregation of where our money comes from and goes.

Linda suggested adding a place on the church website where people can contribute to the current Share-the-Plate social action group, which will be named and explained. Heather agreed to implement.

4. Endorsements

Maureen submitted a draft policy for endorsements of issues that are consistent with UUA or TVUUC established positions and policies. The board accepted this draft. Alan and Lance will work with Chris to develop a graded approach to possibly endorsing issues that do not already have this history of support.

The board unanimously voted to endorse both "Vote No to Amendment 1" and the Greater Knoxville Area Compact, which is a call to Congress for federal immigration reform.

5. Board Monitoring Report from the Executive Team on Safety

Report attached. The board praised the work and suggested making safety videos available to the board and sharing some safety strategies and practices with the entire congregation. Some safety videos will be posted on the TVUUC website.

The safety team is looking for more members.

The safety team is looking into security camera systems and will submit a proposal to the buildings and grounds committee for purchase.

John Mashburn is going to work on a proposal for buying a defibrillator, a purchase that may have to wait for next year's budget.

6. Policy Approval

The board unanimously approved the Program Council Program Approval Policy and revision to the Facilities Usage Policy (previously the Rental Policy).

7. Red Book and Church Covenant

Although it has not been yet been used much, the "red book" in which congregants can write questions and comments for the board (and get answers) will continue to be available in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings.

To increase awareness of our church covenant, it is now more prominently displayed on the church website, will be printed in the order of service when the insert page has a blank side, and will be included in the materials for UU 101 classes.

The Membership team is trying to find "friends" for new members - someone to tie them into groups, accompany them to events, etc. Someone to keep in touch and maintain contact. Please volunteer.

8. Updates

The UUA Southern Region Fall Multi-track Training is Oct. 10-12. Kathy is attending and others are encouraged to attend. One of the programs is on stewardship planning. Some church staff and members are also reading *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate* for new ideas on stewardship.

Oct. 1 Fellowship Meal: Cindy, Mary Jo, Laurie, and Alan are working on it. If, after meeting this week, they learn that they need more help, they will sing out.

9. Visioning Plan

Grier (chair), Laurie, Alan, and Lance are the task force for beginning the visioning process. They will clarify the question(s) to be asked of the congregation and set up ways to get input. They plan to gather congregational input by mid-November. Then they will work with others to synthesize the information to create a vision statement as well as Ends Statements, which can then be used to develop a long range plan.

10. Board Monitoring Schedule 2014-15

Board members volunteered to become the "lead readers" of the monitoring reports that the Executive Team submits to the board each month, as follows:

Safety: John Mashburn

Communication, Public Relations, and Promotion: Alan Moore

Finance, Stewardship Plans: Grier Novinger

Pastoral Care, Membership: Laurie Knox

Worship; Music: Kate Benson

Governance; Board Evaluation; Ministerial Evaluation: Kathy Bohstedt

Still to be claimed: Administration; Building and Grounds. Public Ministry; Denominational Affairs. Program Council.

Lifespan Religious Education.

11. Action items

Linda will add the updated Board Member on Duty script to Basecamp and email it to board members. In Basecamp, the script will be filed under TVUUC BOD.

Heather will send the link for safety training videos to the board members.

Alan and Lance will work with Chris to develop a graded approach to possibly endorsing issues that do not already have established UUA or TVUUC policies.

12. Closing words

Mary Jo offered the closing words and the meeting adjourned at 3 PM.
Next meeting: Sunday, October 19, 12:45 PM. Kathy will provide the opening words.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Moffett, Secretary
September 21, 2014