

Board Meeting Minutes for August 19, 2017

Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga

Present: Bart Solomon, President; Monique Lewis, Past President; Nicky Ozbek, President Elect; Mary Lou Reed, VP Religious Growth Ministry; Linda Park, VP Outreach Ministry; Link Christensen, VP Congregational Life Ministry; David Benn, VP Resource Ministry; Connie Cowherd, Secretary; Bill Derrickson, Treasurer; Rev. Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister.

Absent: none

Guests: Anne Cornwell, Lynne Higgins,, tom kunesh,

Bart called the meeting to order at 6:30PM and lit the chalice.

Cathy read the opening words.

Minutes: June's Board minutes, Bill made a motion to accept June minutes as submitted. Linda seconded. Minutes were approved.

July Board meeting minutes have been available to Board members. No changes or corrections were made. Minutes were approved.

Developmental Minister's Report: Cathy Harrington - see attached report.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Derrickson – see attached report. There was a substantial donation to the Benevolence Fund; the balance is now \$500.00.

Religious Growth Report: Mary Lou Reed - see attached report.

Outreach Report: Linda Park - see attached report.

Congregational Life Report: Link Christiansen – working on getting help in kitchen for Sunday morning coffee. He will report St September Board meeting the outcome of the ad hoc committee on Wowser's Scope of Responsibility.

Resource Ministry: David Benn

New Business:

1. Interfaith Power and Light. Nicky (speaking for Sandy Kurtz) made a motion that UUC join this network of concerned citizens. The mission of Interfaith Power and light is to be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. More information may be found at www.interfaithpowerandlight.org. Nicky made a motion UUC join, Mary Lou seconds. The motion was passed.
2. Sanctuary upgrades/Stair lift. Dave discusses the capital investment of installation of a chair lift. An initial investment of ½ the cost was donated. Another \$5000 donation has since been made. Dave makes a motion that \$15,400 be spent for this project. Nicky seconded his

motion. A discussion followed regarding the remaining \$2700 expense. An amendment to the motion was made to use monies out of the equipment reserve fund. The motion was passed.

3. Wowser's Scope of Responsibility. Link will discuss this in the September Board Meeting as planned.

4.. Utilizing new administrator, Mandy, for small groups and membership. Bart & Linda – this will be discussed further at the Board Retreat.

5. Chris's retirement. Monique spoke with Chris, she does not want any farewell dinners or parties. She wants to "slip out quietly." Several cards have been available to sign after service. Nicky made a motion UUCS spend \$300 to purchase gift certificates from different restaurants and make a gift basket. Linda seconded. The motion was approved. Monique will take care of making this happen.

6. Other – Lynne, Communications Committee, will be taking photos of the Board members at the Board Retreat. She is asking for a 3-sentence bio from each of us.

Old Business: Disruptive Person/Behavior Policy - Linda and Anne Cornwall. Anne discusses feedback she was received regarding the new policy. She proposes the Board look at the policy again, see attached proposal. tom kunesh states the new policy is not consistent with our Bylaws. **Action:** Bart will review the Bylaws and new policy; the question is how to rewrite and be more thoughtful of concerns raised. Anne will send our existing policy, in addition, to examples from other UU churches. Bart suggest Board members review the policy and information sent by Anne. Discussion will be continued.

Linda made a motion the name be changed to Disruptive Person's Policy. Link seconded. The motion was passed.

Quick Report Items: Next Board Meeting is September 22nd at 6:30PM.

Board Rep Schedule: September 24th Linda and Mary Lou; October 1st Bill and Bart.

September's Opening and Closing words: Bill

Closing Words: Cathy

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Cowherd
Board Secretary 2017/2018

Approved by Board September 22nd, 2017 after corrections.

DRE Report for the Board of Trustees
August, 2017

- Our *UU Beach* dinner events were not as well attended by RE Families as we'd hoped. Best attendance numbers came on the first Wednesday, with attendance dropping dramatically on the remaining Wednesdays. In the future, we'll plan these dinners during the school year, when more families may be able to attend.
- Summer RE attendance numbers were our lowest in several years. However, our programming (*Dr. Seuss & UU* for grades K-5, and *TED Talks & Self Expression* for grades 6-12) was well received by the children and youth who did attend.
- Nursery attendance in June & July averaged 1 to 2 children per Sunday.
- July RE attendance:
 - July 9: 12
 - July 16: 8
 - July 23: 9
 - July 30: 9
- Sophie McCurdy attended the UUA's Summer Seminary at Harvard Divinity School. She was one of four attendees chosen to give a "mini sermon" at Arlington Street UU Church in Boston. The experience was incredible, and she is grateful to Reverend Cathy and the UUCC family for the opportunity!
- RE Registration & Kick-off on August 20.
- OWL for grades 10-12 will be offered in the Fall, most likely in four 3 hour sessions, rather than 8 hour and a half long sessions as we've done in the past. Trained OWL facilitators Cecile de Rocher and Eric Tittsworth will lead.
- Carol Hobbs will lead a Teen Art Workshop on Sunday, September 10, from 12:30-3:30. Kay will assist.
- On First Sundays (the first Sunday of each month) this year, grades 6-12 will attend service upstairs (and, hopefully, participate in the service as ushers, greeters, sound techs and worship associates), while grades K-5 will attend a Children's Chapel downstairs with Kay and 2 assistants. Grades K-5 will attend the first part of the service, as always, and head downstairs with Kay after the *Story for all Ages*.
- DRE days off for Fall: 8/27; 9/24; 10/29; 11/26; 12/31.
- UU Kids service on November 19.
- Multicultural Winter Holidays service on December 17.
- UU Teens service on February 11.
- Earth Day Celebration on April 22.
- Bridging & RE Volunteer recognition on May 6.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay McCurdy
Director of Religious Education for Children & Youth - UUCC

Board Report – VP Outreach Ministry – August 22, 2017

The Social Justice Team:

The Social Justice team has been working hard over the summer to provide actions, movies and events for folks to attend; such as the Ed Johnson documentary and two live music/dance events. They are gearing up for the fall when they will be showing the film After Spring - the Syrian Refugee Crisis on September 1; co-sponsoring Father Lapsley's Healing of Memories workshop and training in October; co-sponsoring with the Center for Mindful Living a Peace event on September 12; collaborating with the UU Justice Ministry of Tennessee to bring a well-known speaker to the area in 2018; ordering signs to be carried at events, marches, rallies; mentoring youth, volunteering at Welcome Home and more. This fall they will have a table in the Fellowship area that will give people a chance to learn more about the activities and events coming up. The Social Justice team will have a quarterly meeting on August 29th at 7pm – all are welcome.

Membership Team:

This team has been on summer break – a kind of in hibernation. A couple of things are responsible for that: 1) our new administrator, Mandy, will be taking on some of the responsibilities of membership, and I wanted to let her get her feet wet with her other responsibilities before getting into membership (we will be meeting this Friday, 8/25); 2) hopefully we will subscribe to a successful UUA path for visitors and members called Faith Forward. Then there was one more thing that happened last week, I met with Chen Zhang and Sally Peixoto who are very interested in helping attract and keep active and committed people at UUCC, specifically more young people like themselves; but really, they want to work to keep and add members of all ages as well. Their ideas and energy is giving me the energy to continue and improve on our path from visitor to active, committed members in 2017/18 – a transformation is coming!

Communications Team:

Those of you, who were at the Quarterly Council meeting, heard a lot about this team and the vital and varied roles they play in our community. Some of the highlights of that report are:

- This team has detailed Communications Committee Guidelines which have been updated for 2017-18.
- Chen and Anne are starting a thorough audit of our website for usability and updated information. They already have interesting ideas of how to improve it, but want to get input from users, as well as study other websites to achieve the desired result – an intriguing website that reaches a lot of people.
- One of the website updates will be to include a Members Only section (requiring a logon) which may include a list of who does what at UUCC and how to contact them; an online directory, an individual's

personal information which could be edited (address change, pledge amount), etc.

- Another addition to the website will be pictures and 2-3 sentence bios of staff and board members.
- This team is available to work with committees on how to use some of the equipment we have at UUCU to increase the efficiency and create different ways to work together. They will be offering classes on google docs with an emphasis on how groups can use them in a collaborative way.

Submitted by Linda Park, August 21, 2017