

UUG Board Minutes

September 13, 2012, 7:00pm

Attendees: Michele Jewell, Florence Tarbox, Bettye Baker, Tom Samuelsen, Gene Cimino, Carolyn Stephenson, Rosie Bolen (general membership present, J'Amy Graham Thomas, Carey Moore, George Eschbach)

Opening: Chalice lighting and Reading, Michele Jewell

Prior Months Minutes: A motion was made by Bettye Baker to approve the August minutes; seconded by Florence Tarbox.

Minister's Report: There was no report for minister activities.

Financial Report: Submitted by Ron Gilbert, reviewed by Rosie Bolen.

- Income is currently greater than expected.
- Expenses are currently lower than expected.

Carey Moore asked about Pledge envelope availability. Tom Samuelsen stated that there are envelopes at the greeters table that can be used for cash when the cash needs to be designated as pledge. J'Amy and others felt it was an issue for Membership committee. Gene Cimino stated at the time that Membership would look into the cost involved

Gene Cimino will talk to Ron Gilbert to find out if there are enough members who pledge, but don't actually follow through. If we find there is a real need based on the answer to that question then we

The bottom line on the envelope question is this. I need to talk to Ron to find out if there are enough members who pledge, but don't actually follow through. If we find there is a real need based on the answer to that question then we can move forward.

A motion was made by Bettye Baker to talk to Ron Gilbert to find out the status of Pledge's made versus Pledge's collected; seconded by Florence Tarbox.

Committee Reports: There were no reports.

The Committee on Ministry prepared a mission statement which was distributed to the Board by Michele Jewell.

President's Report:

- Michele noted that Association Sunday for 2012 is to be held November 17 thru 18. Host Congregation, First Unitarian Universalist Church of Berks County. UUG will donate \$50 to the event rather than carry food items to the event.
- Donations to date for the Chalice gift that was given to Kate, \$23.

A motion was made by Bettye Baker to once again attempt to collect donations to offset the cost of the purchase; seconded by Florence Tarbox

- Bookshelves have been purchased and installed in the new Library downstairs and all the books that were in the church office have been moved to those shelves. Future plans would be to purchase another set to accommodate book donations.

- AV system: the new speakers have been installed in the Sanctuary. The brackets to hold them on the wall are on order.
- Handrails for the steps leading to the raised area will be installed once the speakers have been placed on the wall.
- Modifications to the back door “porch” are still in the planning stage and Don Redman will check with Trinity about who will pay for the cost of the modifications.
- Committee Diagram: A diagram from September 2008 has been found.
- Safe Church Policy is in the very early stages of planning. Tom Samuelsen, Task Force Chair, has reviewed the book, “The Safe Congregation Handbook, Nurturing Healthy Boundaries in Our Faith Communities” and made the book available for review by Carolyn Stephenson.
- Michelle Jewell presented a tri-fold program for review. The completed program will be available to attendees of the Annual Program Meeting on Saturday.

Board Transparency: Michele Jewell passed out “hand in hand, Learning to trust” for all to review. There was much discussion over how and when to include the Ministers; while they will continue to not be members of the UUGboard list serve, they will be cc’ed on mail to receive monthly Board minutes and any other Board generated information at the discretion of the Board.

There was much discussion as to what to provide UUG members with. It was agreed that a copy of the monthly minutes would be posted on the bulletin board in the coat closet, excluding any Board discussion of sensitive nature. There will also be posted a bulleted list of important topic for those that don’t care to read the minutes in their entirety, and that will list will also be sent to members via the UUGupdates list serv. There was also much discussion of the use of the UUGupdates listserv.

Michele Jewell passed out two documents on the topic, “Communications and Social Media for UU Congregations” and “email increasingly is a culprit...” Tom Samuelsen is looking into a new list serv since some of our UUG members are not on the current Google group; for whatever reason there is difficulty getting email invitations to these members so that they can join the group.

UUG Annual Membership Directory: Bonnie Overholtzer and Gene Cimino are finalizing the annual update of the UUG membership directory.

Cook-off Report: No report was available. Cookie Driscoll is out of town. Tom Samuelsen suggested that we look into this fundraiser and how beneficial it is to the Church; cost versus actual income. It was also suggested that in the future, board president approval is needed before any contracts binding the church (in fundraising, or any other matters) can be signed.

Annual Program Meeting: There was much discussion about who will present what during the meeting; e.g. PR presented by Carey Moore, library by Michele Jewell.

Michelle reviewed her draft of the program to be presented.

Report of the PR Task Force: Task Force Chair, Carey Moore, provided three draft documents, 1) Mission Statement of the [PR] Task Force, 2) proposed UUG business card, and 3) proposed changes on the outside bulletin board.

He then described a vision of the business card and then there was much discussion as to what will be on the front of the card. Everyone agreed that the UU Principles would be printed on the back of the card.

He then described a vision of the outside bulletin board and there was much discussion about what will be on the board and how it would be arranged.

New Music Committee: Linda Miller has volunteered to Chair this committee, and has prepared a mission statement. This was handed out to the Board members. George Eschbach submitted a letter regarding the organ and who he has contacted about the organ; JPD has been informed that we may care to find a volunteer to take the organ. Also, UUCY has stated that they would like to have the organ.

Florence Tarbox stated that the Music Committee plans to use the organ and that they have plans to check the volume to ensure that it is not too loud for the size of the Sanctuary. Carolyn Stephenson stated that the volume has been a great concern of many church members.

The Music Chair, Linda Miller, may be asked to attend the October Board meeting to present her vision and how the organ may be used.

Agenda items tabled until another date due to time:

- Stewardship Chair vacancy
- BOD vision for UUG – Revisit LRP 2006-2010
- Florence Tarbox – Topics for BOD