

Minutes, UUFLG Board of Trustees Meeting, July 8, 2021

This meeting of the UUFLG Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:06 p.m. via video conference.

Present:

Charlie Holst (president)

Karen O'Brien (vice president)

Lynn Golbetz (secretary)

Rick Roberts (treasurer)

Lauri Feetham (trustee at large)

Donna Brewer

The board approved the minutes for the June 10, 2021, meeting.

Reopening

The Committee on Ministry (CoM) (Donna Brewer, Laurie Roberts, and Robb Stolberg) has met with Rev. Fa Jun to discuss the relative abruptness of the summer reopening and lack of preparation for welcoming new attendees. The board discussed a number of related issues.

Communication

There seems to be a widespread lack of awareness that folks may now attend services in person, although this has been posted on our website and in repeated emails and issues of What's Happening. Charlie will send out another email, Karen will publicize our reopening on Facebook, and Lynn will write up another paragraph for What's Happening. The board discussed potentially sending postcards (Donna is willing to help write) or calling members. Lynn will ask the Care/Share members to call their lists one more time with the message that we are open and provide information on the COVID guidelines. (If those called have any objections to the guidelines, the message is that the task force and board listened to all sides and tried to come up with a middle ground; we are also working to keep the services inclusive of those choosing to attend via Zoom).

Masking

Opinions on wearing masks indoors, per the task force's guidelines, range from conviction that this is no longer necessary (for the vaccinated) to unwillingness to attend even with masks. Greeters will need to remind arrivals of our mask requirement. If there is resistance, the message is that this is our UU principles at work: we are protecting our vulnerable members, including the elderly, the immunocompromised, and children under 12, and respecting one another. A majority of UU fellowships in our area are still closed, and UUA is not recommending opening yet. Anyone who remains unwilling to wear a mask should be encouraged to join us at our mask-free social hour on the deck after the service.

Other Greeting Issues

To the deep gratitude of the board, several folks have stepped up as greeters, with Rick and Laurie greeting on 7/11 and Sue Ann on 7/18. Both had backup from Donna, who will also be acting as an adviser to the nascent Membership Committee.) Harry Campbell will no longer be making name tags. Lauri is willing to do so if Harry shares the program with her; she has already spoken with Ann Campbell about taking over the database.

Matters Technological

Online attendees can hear the minister and service associate but no one else (e.g., Joys & Concerns, announcements from the floor)—people need to come to the lectern to speak into the single microphone that works for Zoom. Sunday Services needs to let speakers know this.

Charlie is looking for others to use the backup computer and microphone enabling Zoom attendance; he will contact Kendra Hershey and Sierra Golbetz, who have offered to help. He has been projecting the Zoom gallery view, showing names or videos, depending on whether people have their videos on.

Sierra stopped into the board meeting briefly to request that committee leads receive more information on the reopening, including technical matters (e.g., Social Action needs to know how to bring in Share the Plate speakers).

Finances

Less money than expected has been coming in from pledges. However, some rentals are resuming. Unity plans to return as of Aug. 22; Art of Living is considering September. The fiscal year closed with a \$4,500 deficit, but our bank account remains healthy. Most of the financial discrepancies have been resolved. We more or less broke even, due in part to the PPP loans. Applying for forgiveness of the second of these loans is on Karen's list once she returns from her travels. Rick notes that processing of financial forms is slow because banks remain understaffed.

Minister Review

The CoM is working on ways to get congregational feedback in conjunction with Rev. Fa Jun's review and contract renewal. Karen will check UUA website for any pertinent information. It was suggested that committee heads could make up an informal focus group to provide and channel feedback. Charlie will draft questions for the committee heads and schedule a Zoom meeting among them and the board, hopefully by the end of July. Lynn will take notes at this meeting; we can then anonymize responses and cut snippets from them. Rick will take over the review process after Charlie leaves.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13. The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Golbetz (Secretary)

Action Items

Charlie: Send out another email to the discussion group clarifying that services are hybrid

Contact Kendra and Sierra regarding tech hosting

Draft questions for committee heads as focus group for Rev. Fa Jun's review; schedule

Zoom meeting for committee heads and board, ideally by end of July

Karen: Publicize our reopening on Facebook

Take lead in applying for forgiveness of second PPP loan

Check UUA website for any useful information on minister reviews

Lauri: Follow up with Ann and Harry on taking over the database and production of name tags

Lynn: Write a paragraph for What's Happening reminding everyone that services are hybrid

Ask Care/Share members to call their lists a final time to tell them we are open and mention our guidelines, including the requirement that masks to be worn indoors

Tell Sunday Services to make sure anyone who wants to speak comes up to the lectern

Future Agenda Items

Procedures for determining membership status