Minutes, UUFLG Board of Trustees Meeting, Aug. 12, 2021

This meeting of the UUFLG Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:03 p.m. via video conference.

Present:

Karen O'Brien (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.

Finance

Ann Campbell will take over the writing of checks while Rick and Laurie are gone (8/22-9/10).

July looked reasonably good in terms of the budget, though the first month of a fiscal year is not necessarily typical. With the rise of the Delta variant, however, rental income has once again become unpredictable. Unity now does not plan to return until case numbers drop sufficiently, after which they will only be here twice a month. Some other previously regular renters are planning to continue meeting via Zoom indefinitely.

Cindy Giesing did the paperwork for forgiveness of our first PPP loan; Rick will consult with her on the second. Karen will check on the time frame.

Stewardship

This committee only has two members, Rick and Ron Kirkland. Ron has not been present, so some facility projects are on hold.

COVID

The COVID task force has not met since Charlie's departure. Rick will email Katie Rall and Mark Ditzler; it is hoped that Mark may take over as chair. The board requested that the task force report in frequently (e.g., weekly), rather than only at the monthly meetings.

The board discussed our current guidelines, which correspond to the county's, and concerns about continuing hybrid services with the rise of Delta. The safety of our congregation is the highest priority; however, maintaining some continuity of services is also important, as is offering an in-person experience for both current and potential new members. It was noted that we are the only local UU fellowship presently meeting in person, and one of a (small) minority nationwide. Sunnyvale presently plans to reopen 9/5, though this has been debated. plan. Many others are not planning to open till January.

The board will continue to look at this situation and update the community weekly. The primary points to communicate at present are that the task force is staying on top of the situation and that we are following current legal guidelines.

Membership

Membership has been planning to send out postcards announcing our 9/12 reopening, and some steps have been taken toward this. The board generally does not think postcards are the best use of our volunteers' efforts at this point, especially because there is a chance the reopening will be delayed. Lauri will notify David Voris (Membership chair) to express this thought, but this is Membership's decision.

The fellowship's database is very siloed, with different subsets of information available to different individuals. Lauri will be looking into these issues in an attempt to unify the database and regularize access.

Sunday Services

Some tech items are needed to produce coherent hybrid services. Karen will make these purchases. Rick indicates that the money could come out of Building and Grounds budget.

RE

The garden has been a great success. The board discussed future exciting RE plans and ways to disseminate information on them to the wider community.

Building and Grounds

The committee has done much interior repainting; Rick has done extensive irrigation repair; and Ellen, with Coralee's help, has installed a wonderful outdoor banister. They are all much appreciated!

The photographs formerly in the foyer will be put in storage for now.

There are broken tiles in the handicapped stall in the women's room. Ellen suggests replacing them with cement. Rick is willing to help. This will be a short-term fix, as we still need to identify the underlying cause of the problem and may revamp the bathrooms entirely in future.

Decision Making

The board discussed what levels of approval are needed for the fellowship's name (including its banner) to be used in support of a cause and/or its money to be donated thereto. It agreed that committees planning to do either of these should notify the board as far in advance as possible,

so that there can be consultation if needed and any questions/objections can be addressed. The board members committed to responding promptly to any such notifications.

However, once the congregation approves the list of Share the Plate recipients, Social Action is authorized to proceed within reason to support their efforts. (An example would be supporting the NAMI walk.) Henceforth the board secretary will make sure the approval of this list is a formal item on the business meeting agenda and ballot.

Governance

The board delightedly appointed Karen Fitch vice president. Per the bylaws, her term of appointment will extend until the 2022 business meeting, when she will be eligible for election to the position for a second year.

Minister's Review

Karen will take over Charlie's commitments on this and has already looked at relevant material from the UUA. The board will discuss after congregational feedback has been obtained.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38. The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 9, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Golbetz (Secretary)

Action Items

Karen: Draft questions for committee heads as focus group for Rev. Fa Jun's review; schedule Zoom meeting for committee heads and board

Check on deadline for applying for forgiveness of second PPP loan and let Rick know

Check prices for SSC tech items and acquire if reasonable

Publicize reopening on Facebook

Lauri: Pursue modernization of database

Contact David Voris to report board's thoughts on postcards announcing reopening

Lynn: Tell Social Action about discussion on decision making

Rick: Convene COVID task force

Consult with Cindy and prepare application for forgiveness of second PPP loan Work with Ellen to replace broken bathroom tiles with cement

Future Agenda Items

Processes for evaluating minister, reviewing/renewing contract, and determining compensation

Procedures and criteria for determining membership in good standing Need for design subcommittee

Review personal safety policy