UUCA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

23 Edwin

August 1, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Nora Carpenter, Michele Gregory, Judy Harper, Kate Hartnett, Bruce Larson, Diane Martin, James Schall, Dale Wachowiak, Mark Ward (ex officio), Mariah Wright, and Laura Park of Unity Consulting (virtual presence).

Chalice Lighting and Opening: Kate

Vision Work, Part I: Laura Park, via internet connection, led the Board into the next step in preparation for the Mission/Ends sessions we will be hosting with the congregation. This evening's work had as its goal getting a grasp of the topics that are currently resonating in our congregation, topics that might be a fruitful focus for what we could create together in UUCA's future.

Laura had Board members individually react to the above prompt. After each had responded individually, she encouraged dialogue about the thoughts and issues that had arisen. As ideas were shared, Laura compiled an extended summary list of phrases that captured the range of conversation. Laura clarified and synopsized some of the themes she was hearing expressed.

We closed by scheduling a Zoom session with Laura on August 15th at 7:30 p.m. The purpose of this session would be to identify, using the brainstorming data generated tonight, the one "Powerful Question" that group facilitators will be asking congregants to address.

Vision Work, Part II: On the evening of 8/15, Laura Park, Nora Carpenter, Michele Gregory, Kate Hartnett, Bruce Larson, James Schall, Dale Wachowiak, Mark Ward, and Mariah Wright met in the Zoom room at the appointed time.

Laura reviewed the results of the brainstorming session the Board conducted with her last time. She had extracted four key themes from the Board's ideas: Living as a Unitarian Universalist; The possibilities of change, of letting go; The meaning of real connection; and Transformation.

She then presented and elaborated upon three sets of questions that emerged from her analysis of the data the Board had produced:

How am I willing to change in order for us to make change in the world?

What is our faith calling for from us in this moment? How could our faith transform us: within, among, and beyond?

What is transformative connection: within, among, and beyond? How could connection transform us: within, among, and beyond?

Under her leadership, we then went around the room with each Board member sharing her/his reactions to and preference for each of these sets of questions. This evolved into extensive discussion, proposals, and editing that culminated in a Powerful Question that had apparent consensus: *What is our Unitarian Universalist faith calling for us to be and do?*

After some clarification of further dates in the consulting process, Laura signed off.

Mission/Ends Project Planning: Diane, on behalf of the M/E task force reported that they had arrived at a name for the Fall program: *Living Our Values,* with the acronym *LOV.* A logo is in the works.

A list of select lay leaders, plus the Associate Minister and the Adminstrator, was generated to be invited to the September 16th training session with Board members and facilitators. The Clerk agreed to send out invitations.

What's Happening: Mark reviewed aspects of his monthly report, including further thinking and research he has done relative to the Sanctuary proposal, the process that led to the hiring of in-house employees Kim Collin and Jen Johnson as interim co-LRE directors, the fact that Rev. Lisa will be trying to resurrect the notion of a regular Wednesday evening program, and that UUCA will become an election site.

Limitations: Mark asked if there were any questions related to his responses to Executive Limitations, Policy B: Right Relations. He also pointed out that Paragraph 5 has still not been brought into compliance with the Healthy Congregation document. Dale agreed to look in to this change.

Physical Sanctuary Proposal: At this juncture, members of the Sanctuary Working Group joined the Board to discuss the status of their planning efforts. They included Elizabeth Schell, Cecilia Rawlins, Katie Winchell, and Karin Eckert. The

group had previously submitted progress reports to the Board. The group responded to Board questions with regard to such issues as legal representation, signage, zoning issues, potential insurance problems, and resources that would be needed from the congregation. They submitted a list of other congregations and groups that have offered to support the efforts to establish and staff a Sanctuary site at 23 Edwin. There was a prolonged discussion of potential dates for a congregational meeting on this proposal. The primary concern on the Board's part was whether we needed to reach some closure on our Living Our Values project before turning the congregation's attention to the SWG proposal. On the other hand, SWG representatives were concerned about losing momentum with further delays. No consensus was reached prior to the meeting's conclusion.

Ministerial Review: At the Board's September meeting, the Ministerial Review Committee will submit their report for 2016-2017.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 11 meeting were approved.

Closing: Kate

Executive Session

Minutes submitted by Dale Wachowiak, Clerk