# UUCA Board Meeting Minutes

## 23 Edwin Place

## 6:30 PM June 2, 2015

**Members present**: John Bates (President), Wendy Seligman (Vice-President), Carol Shultheis (Clerk), Mark Ward, Shel Altshul, Tom Branford, Michelle Gregory, Martha Kiger, Robin Loew Guest: Bob Roepnack, Linda Topp.

**Candle lighting** – John

MOTION: The UUCA Board of Trustees voted unanimously to elect the following Board officers: John Bates - President, Wendy Seligman – Vice President, Carol Shultheis, - Clerk.

**MOTION-** The UUCA Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the May 2015 meeting with changes. Offices held by those present should be included. In Ends statement – We Work – replace progressive with liberal religious.

**MOTION:** The Board unanimously gave virtual approval on May 15, 2015, for UUCA to sign a contract with Patton Construction Group, Inc. for the welcome project not to exceed $610, 000. The motion was unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** The following slate of delegates to the 2015 UUA General Assembly was unanimously approved: Tom Blanford, Jennifer Gorman, Judy Harper, John Bates, Mara Sprain, Gene Lambirth, Gay Lambirth, Bob Falanga, Clark Olsen. Linda Topp as an offsite delegate

**WELCOME PROJECT–** Mark announced that the campaign to fund the SOUTH FOYER has now raised over $90,000 and is still ongoing. Most of the pledges were unsolicited. We now have funds to proceed with the South Foyer. This process was a perfect example of how Policy Governance worked well.

**Bob -** Permits are expected to be received June 3. The equipment is here and Patton is eager to get started. Patton has been very cooperative in keeping costs to a minimum. The addition of the soth foyer contract will add $130,000 to the cost, not to exceed $139,000. A contingency of 46K to cover building costs, architect and landscaping. Much of the project work will be underground, which have been needed to support the structure. Patton has much experience in such work.

**Linda –** An Application has been made for a Building Risk policy. Much of the time acess to the South and South entrances will be closed. The need for signage, escorts on Sunday morning, additional parking was discussed. Linda stated that no one will be permitted beyond the fences, and anyone in the area will be removed**.**

**MOTION:** The UUCA Board of Trustees approves the Executive to sign a change order to the current contract with Patton Construction Group for the South Foyer for a cost not to exceed $130,000. The motion was unanimously passed

**Roles during construction.** Any congregants with questions or concerns – let office know and E-mail to Mark. Mark will delegate and be the direct contact with Bob. Bob will be the contact to Patton. It is important to observe this procedure to prevent problems**.**

**WHAT'S NEW**

**The Congregational Survey** There were a limited number of responses (approx 120) and an attempt will be made to involve more congregants, especially RE parents**.**

**BLACK LIVES MATTER** Mark continues to attend Asheville's Stop the Violence Coalition. Focus needed on education, jobs. 50% unemployment in African Americans. People in projects don't feel supported. He is exploring the possibility of joining with River Road Congregation in Bethesda Maryland in a campaign to increase voter registration in North Carolina. This would be modeled after a project conducted by All Souls UU Church in Washington DC, and the Charlotte UU congregation.

Board members agreed to continue to meet the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM, preceded at 6 with dinner supplied by rotating members.

**Strategic themes for the year** A lengthy discussion was held. The following is a summary. Continue input on updated ends, Executive to execute through programs and staff. Board is vision caster, executive interprets and responds with plans. Need to establish metrics to measure how things are going. Assess impact of Welcome project. Measure meaningful things we really care about, establish bench marks. Access specific metrics – i.e. age, gender, children or no. Continue focus on retention; rarely lose people who are engaged. Consider reunions of new member groups. Need to trace numbers involved in classes, groups. Develop strategy through survey, tough to quantify. Ginny Courter's farewell speech, on line from 2013 GA - excellent.

5 year plan – We do have financial 5 year plan. What do we want to be as a congregation in 5 years? Focus on 1-2 things rather than doing everything. Innovation – extending focus, need for technology. How do we appeal to Millennials?

Did listening sessions make a difference? Response was positive from participants. Consider continuing listening sessions, especially with specific groups. Board needs to be more proactive and reach out to people. More high quality adult education offerings.