MINUTES

UUCA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

23 MAY 2023

Present: Clyde Hardin, Adam Griffith, Julie Stoffels (via Zoom), Karen Dill, Margaret McAlister, Mary Alm (via Zoom), Cliff Hall, Will Jernigan (via Zoom), Laurel Amabile, Rev. Cathy Harrington, Wendy Motch-Ellis

1. **Call to Order**
   The meeting was called to order at 6:40.
2. **Opening Words and Chalice Lighting** Karen gave the opening reading re the start of spring and the process of change.
3. **Check-in**
   Sharing included topics of travel for work and pleasure; loss; completion of major projects; anticipating change.
4. **Consent Agenda**
   April Minutes
   Q'Pasa
   Cathy's Annual Report
   The Consent Agenda passed by unanimous consent.
5. **AGD Wrap-up Report**
   Will shared round numbers: 80 % have responded; 20% have yet to respond. $618,000 have been pledged as of today. We are forecasting a total of $640,000, taking into account the still-outstanding members to pledge. In April we were coming up short; the push in May resulted in an additional $25,000 to amounts already pledged.
   Clyde shared that Rev. Audette has asked how we have recognized these pledges. In the past, thank you notes have been sent. Discussion resulted in deciding to make phone calls to thank those who have pledged. It was suggested we combine the outgoing and incoming Board members to make these calls. Consensus: we will make the calls, with the help of the three new Board members to be voted on at the June 4th Annual Meeting.
6. **Budget Approval**
   Board members noted that the Budget Town Hall on Sunday May 21, 2023, provided the opportunity to provide congregants with a very clear summary

of the 2023-24 Budget. The acceptance level was remarkable. Mary, Margaret, and Laurel were present from the Board. There was an overall positive attitude expressed by attendees who numbered over 60 and remained engaged. The meeting was also viewed as helpful in being transparent with congregants regarding the budget process.
Wendy shared that we have, as a goal, maintaining a positive attitude and being transparent, especially though visioning.
A concern was raised that we are still not giving a sufficient amount to the UUA Annual Fund. Margaret moved that we give 5% in 2023-24, vs. the 4.5% we have been giving, to move us closer to the 6.5% recommended. Mary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Cliff moved that we accept the budget as amended. The motion was seconded by Adam. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Kudos**
   Wendy for pulling the budget together. The Board members for collaborative work, genuine caring toward one another, and willingness to compromise. To Will for all of his attention to the financial needs of the Congregation. To Marta Reese for her continuing input. To Cliff for joining the Board meeting in person. To Clyde for having been there always, especially managing the step down of the Board president and maintaining the reigns and moving us forward. To Cathy for dealing with a virtual congregation. To Cathy for her willingness to interact with the three candidate finalists.
8. **Annual Meeting Preparation**
   The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on June 4th in the sanctuary at 12:30 p.m. Voting will be held to approve the following: the minutes of the June 12, 2022 Annual Meeting; the minutes of the April 30, 2023 Special Congregational Meeting; the 2023-24 Proposed Budget; the slate of proposed members for the Board of Trustees; the slate of proposed members for the Leadership Development Committee; and the motion to adopt the 8th Principle.
   Laurel volunteered to be Clerk for the meeting in Julie's absence. Proxy votes are due by noon on Friday June 2, 2023. Laurel, Mary, Karen, and Adam will check in attendees. Votes at the meeting will be by voice. If a

question arises, a hand vote will be held and counted. Margaret volunteered to lead the reading of the Congregational Covenant.

9. **Annual Board Evaluation**
   The overall assessment was generally good. Communication with the congregation could be given more effort. Actively soliciting input on important issues should be a goal in the future, to be more proactive. We did not function well throughout with a policy governance focus. There would be value in assessing that for the future. The visibility of the Board was difficult to achieve. When an organization is in transition, we often have to put policy aside and take a more fluid approach. We did a better job of orienting our new Board members this year. Volunteering by Board members was laudatory. It is good to remember that we had one year when we didn't see one another in person. What was missing was a true retreat when we could really communicate with one another and reflect. We did well to have accomplished what we did. There were significant transitions and urgent matters. We did really good things during hard times. Board members participated heavily in the ABD. We anticipate that we are now heading for more normal times.
10. **Racial Justice Check**
    We often alluded to the vote at the Annual Meeting on the 8th Principle.
11. **Process Orientation**
    Interruptions during discussion numbered two.
12. **Closing Words And Chalice Extinguishing**
    Karen: From Rev. Audette: For all that is our life, let us give thanks.
13. **Adjournment**
    8:31 p.m.
14. **Executive Session**
    A brief session was held.

Respectfully Submitted,
Julie Stoffels, Clerk