

(Draft. Oct. 1, 2014)

MINUTES
UUCD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Sept. 8, 2014

Board members present: Ramon Urbano, Chair; Ann-Catrin Van, Vice-chair; Barbara Bower; Joyce Takahashi; Lisa Baker; Hiram Jackson.

Others present: Rev. Beth Banks; Mari Perla, Nominee to the Board; Barbara Ashby, Search Committee for Assistant Minister; Marty West, Stewardship; Linda Magrum, Operations; Stacie Frerichs, Finance Team; Jack Whitsett, Congregant; Donna Sachs, Secretary.

Opening activities

Ramon Urbano called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Hiram Jackson read a moving selection from Huckleberry Finn.

The agenda was approved after it was amended with some shifts in the order of items and with a couple of additions.

Announcements

Ramon prefaced the announcements with an invitation to the Board to be good models for the congregation by participating in church events such as those mentioned here.

1) Sept. 21, A New Member Ceremony

2) Sept. 21, Dream Team Training

3) Sept. 28, College of Social Justice Weekend. Beth described the events that will occur the weekend of Sept. 27 and 28. Rev. Kathleen McTique will lead a workshop on Saturday; there will be a dinner by invitation on Saturday evening; and Rev. McTique will preach on Sunday.

4) Sept. 28, Barbara Bower will host a conversation with the Board.

5) On Sept. 29, there will be a Program Council meeting. Beth reported that she and Kate Raymond will do a training for committee leaders on effective leadership.

6) Ramon announced that there will be a District Leadership Day on Oct. 25.

7) On Oct. 12, is the Pluug-in Fair organized by Karen Russell. Tables will be present for church committees and activities. Ramon suggested that the Board host a table.

8) Progress Ranch. The church committee that works with the Progress Ranch connection has asked to end its formal relationship between the church and Progress Ranch because it is no longer needed in the same way, and that this is a good thing. The connection will continue with quilt making for the boys and with a nomination for the Special Collections.

9) Mari Perla announced that there will be a meeting of people who are Greeters on Sept. 14. She invited the Board to attend.

Consent agenda

Minutes from the Aug. 11 Board meeting were approved after one change, which was a misspelling of a name. Motion by Lisa Baker and seconded by Joyce Takahashi.

Discussion and Action Items

1) Mari Perla accepted the nomination to the Board. A motion was made to appoint Mari to the Board for the 2014-15 year to fill Jenn Richard's term until the board elections are held at the congregational meeting in May, 2015, per the UUCD bylaws. Lisa Baker made the motion, seconded by Ann-Catrin Van. The motion was approved unanimously.

Also, there was discussion of whether Mari would remain as chair of the membership committee.

Mari was absent for the vote, and when she returned, she was welcomed with happiness and applause.

2) New Assistant Minister position

Barbara Ashby as Chair of the Search Committee, presented the committee's recommendation that the church hire Rev. Cody Saunders as Assistant Minister.

The members of the committee are Barbara Ashby, Jeff Lefkoff, Sarah Keith, and Ann-Catrin Van. Barbara described the applicant as an "absolute perfect fit . . . and an incredible asset to our community". Copies of Cody Saunder's resume and cover letter were included in the Board packet.

Marty West presented a draft of the contract that would be between Rev. Saunders and the church.

The motion was made that the church hire Cody Saunders as Assistant Minister for Pastoral Care for this current year (through June 30, 2015). Moved by Hiram Jackson, seconded by Barbara Bower. The Board unanimously approved the appointment.

Ramon Urbano was recognized as authorized to sign the contract.

3) Nominating Committee

Ann-Catrin Van moved that Lisa Baker be appointed to the Nominating Committee; seconded by Mari Perla. Motion passed.

Mari Perla will now resign from the Nominating Committee as only two members of the Board should be on it. So now, a new person will need to be found and nominated for appointment by the Board.

4) Support for College of Social Justice Event on Sept. 27

Ramon proposed that the Board give \$250 from its own budget line as a contribution toward the food that will be provided at the Social Justice event. Moved by Ann-Catrin Van, seconded by Joyce Takahashi, and then approved.

Stephan Harvey will be managing the food for this event.

5) Operations report

Linda Magrum requested that the Board fund two maintenance operations.

The Administration Building needs some carpentry repairs to the outer walls, new gutters, and painting. The recommendation is to accept particular bids that add to \$12,450. The plan is to have this work done before the [so-called] rainy season—in about 60 days. The money would come from undesignated reserved funds.

Hiram Jackson moved that the Board accept the bids and authorize the work; Joyce Takahashi seconded; motion passed.

The gas wall heater in the cottage was deemed unsafe last year. Through the winter, people used space heaters when they had meetings in the cottage. Now, the recommendation is to replace the heater. Linda presented a bid of \$1,882 from Blakes. The money would come from the "fixed assets purchases" budget line.

Ramon Urbano moved that the Board authorize this work, Ann-Catrin Van seconded, motion passed.

6) Stewardship report

Marty West described how the Stewardship Team is checking and culling the membership list. She reminded the Board that it is not a requirement for membership to make a financial pledge, but it is a requirement to make a financial contribution of record. The team is following up on members who have not pledged or contributed for two years or more. Stewardship will switch to the continuing pledge model in January. The team is getting ready for this change.

7) Special Collections Subcommittee

Hiram Jackson reported that there are nine, possibly ten nominations for special collections for the coming year.

The Board discussed how to publicize the special collections and how to inform the congregation about specific recipients. The description of the Davis Community Meals in the bulletin was noted and appreciated. Also, the Board talked about the ways in that the subcommittee and the church communicate and interact with nominators, nominees, and recipients. The Board charged the subcommittee with considering these issues and then to report back. For example, the subcommittee may come up with a plan to inform and give thanks. More information about recipients is wanted by the congregation ahead of time.

8) Sabbatical Planning

Beth reported on the Sabbatical Committee. She proposed the slate for the committee: with Chair as Katie Tenerelli and other members being Carol Corbett, Joyce Takahashi, Marty West, and Stephan Harvey. Hiram Jackson moved to accept this slate, Lisa Baker seconded. Motion passed, with one abstention—from Joyce Takahashi.

Carol Corbett will be working on planning celebrations for Beth's departure and return.

Beth also said that a small group is working on filling the pulpit for the months when she will be gone.

9) Finance Report

Stacie Frerichs presented the Annual Financial Report for the past year—2013-2014. The church is approximately \$15,000 cash positive at the end of the year. See the finance report presented to the Board.

Depreciation was discussed as the figures come out differently from the actual cash figures. Board members talked about how depreciation is regarded and worked with in organizations such as the church. Also, in connection with depreciation, the importance of capital reserves and planning for future needs was acknowledged. A balance between present and future needs was deemed to be crucial to planning.

Stacie pointed out that the church might use its surplus from last year to apply to the budget deficit for this year. The Board charged her with preparing a formal recommendation to this effect and to bring it to the next meeting.

Closing Activities

Barbara Bower presented her evaluation of the meeting.

Beth offered a reading that highlighted the church's new water feature.

Meeting adjourned by 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Sachs, Board Secretary