

Draft
MINUTES: September 14, 2015

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis

Board members present: Ann-Catrin Van, Chair; Mari Perla, Vice-Chair; Ramon Urbano; Carol Corbett; Pat Moore-Pickett; Lisa Baker.
Absent: Barbara Bower.

Others present: Beth Banks, Senior Minister; Marty West, Operations;
Scott Ragsdale, Campus Ministry; Jack Whitsett, Congregant; Donna Sachs, Secretary to the Board.

Opening Activities

7 pm: Meeting opened by Chair, Ann-Catrin Van.
Opening reflection, Ramon Urbano
Covenant reading, Lisa Baker
Timekeeper/evaluator, Ramon Urbano

The agenda was approved with additions. So moved by Lisa Baker, sec-
onded by Ann-Catrin Van.

Congregational Input: Scott Ragsdale, on behalf of the Campus Ministry Committee, gave a report which contains a proposal that the church consider hiring a permanent campus minister. Ann-Catrin Van said that the Board will consider putting the proposal on the agenda in the future.

Announcements

1. There will be a music workshop and dinner on September 19, 4:30-9pm. led by Laura Sandage, at the church.
2. The Sihaya Walk, a fundraiser, will be Oct. 11, from 1-4pm, at the International House. Carol Corbett will give information to Mandy Dawn for the bulletin. Laura will share the information with the campus group.
3. Empower Yolo will be hosting a fundraiser: The play "Seven" will be performed at the Varsity Theater on Oct. 18.

Consent Agenda

The Board accepted the following items on the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Lisa Baker and seconded by Ramon Urbano:

1. Approval of Board Minutes of August 10, 2015.
2. Approval of expenditure for parking lot.
3. Staff reports.
4. Appointments of Lisa Oakes and Hiram Jackson to the Committee on Ministry.
5. Appointment of Karen Naliboff as new Finance Officer.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Memorial Task Force Proposal: Ann-Catrin Van moved that “the Board accept the Memorial Task Force Plan as is”. Pat Moore-Pickett seconded the motion. Ann-Catrin noted that the proposal includes four items that are to be completed by a subcommittee. There followed a discussion about who would actually be responsible for the remaining work—Board, staff, subcommittee? Pat suggested that the subcommittee consider this unclarity of roles. Lisa pointed out that the project will need a project manager. Ann-Catrin asked about maintenance of the present Memorial Garden and suggested that the subcommittee could look at this as well. The motion was amended by including that the last four items be delegated to the subcommittee. As such, the motion was passed with 5 ayes and 1 abstention.

The subcommittee is Mari Perla, Carol Corbett, and Donna Sachs.

2. Board Highlights: There should be an article in the bulletin every month.
3. Board visibility to the congregation: Board members will introduce the offering at worship services as they are willing and able. They will cover this function at both services except for the first one of each month when they will do only the first.
4. There will be a Board ceremony on Oct. 18. Both services.
5. Also, the Board will do a service on June 12, 2016. This would be for the newly elected Board and would include biographies, photos, personal sharing, induction of new Board members, and thanking the congregation.
6. Laura Thompson, intern and campus minister, requested permission to perform marriage services. The Board accepted this. So long as she is in her internship, Laura is now authorized to officiate at marriages at the church or off-site, as requested.

[BREAK]

Another Announcement:

The Interfaith group will be having a meeting to organize a fund-raising to buy a refrigerated truck for the Yolo Food Bank. It will be held on Saturday at Bet Haverim.

7. Minister’s Report: Beth chose to highlight certain Stewardship issues; specifically that congregations need enthusiastic support for their churches. In our church, a current question is—who should do this? The stewardship group used to take on the job of getting the congregation excited about the church’s mission; but now they are doing other things. Beth invited the Board to take on this problem: How do you raise up the vision and the mission of your church in a way that gets people’s enthusiasm, and who should lead this effort? Beth suggests that we need a year long effort to remind people of why they give to the church. It would be good to scatter the message out throughout the year.

Marty West described the recent history of the Stewardship Committee, and how it is changed from the old Generosity Committee.

Beth’s concern is that people do not understand why they are giving. There are many ways to inform people and to generate excitement: sermons, testimonials, profiling programs etc. Also, events could be held over the year with the intention of exciting people about the ways in which we are living our mission and vision. The effort needs a coordinating group.

Carol Corbett suggested testimonials during services.

Beth said we need a group of people to work on this as a creative process.

After discussion, Lisa Baker suggested that we bring back the issue as an agenda item at a future meeting. The Board agreed.

Beth asked for a couple of Board volunteers to come up with ideas to bring back to the Board. Carol Corbett and Laura Thompson volunteered.

8. Operations Report: Marty West.

Jennifer Johnson, our bookkeeper has resigned. She will stay until the end of October, and will train a new person. Marty is working on developing an ad. A new bookkeeper will be hired.

The Finance Committee met and has the final report for last year.

An ad for new people to join the Finance Committee is ready.

Ann-Catrin asked if Karen Nabiloff could do the finance training for the Board. Marty will ask Karen about this.

Mari Perla asked about the water issues. Marty said this is on hold for now.

9. Feedback on Board Retreat: Ann-Catrin Van

The Board Covenant change was considered. Pat Moore-Pickett brought up what she had offered at the retreat: to add “respect and allowing all voices.

A motion was made that the current covenant be altered to include the words “allowing all voices” after “respectfully”. Motion passed.

Other feedback from the retreat led to Ramon Urbano’s suggestion that we need to develop more clarity about what is needed, particularly in regards to the strategic plan. What should the Board be doing to help carry the plan onward?

This issue will be considered at a future meeting.

Closing Activities

Ramon Urbano gave the evaluation of the meeting.

Beth offered a closing.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Attachments

1. Board Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2015
2. Operations Report, August 2015
3. Memo from Marty West regarding parking lot expense
4. Staff Report: Lifespan Learning, September 2015
5. Staff Report: Senior Minister, September 2015
6. Staff Report: Office, August 2015
7. Biographies of Lisa Oakes, Hiram Jackson, and Karen Naliboff
8. Proposal for the UUCD Memorial Grove [this was also in the packet last month]
9. Summary statements from the Friday night ritual at the Board Retreat
10. UUCD Annual Financial Report 2014-15
11. UUCD Balance Sheet as of July 31, 2015
12. UUCD Profit and Loss Statement as of July 31, 2015

respectfully submitted by Donna Sachs, Secretary to the Board