



Board of Directors Meeting: August 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Jo Shaffer, Vice President.

Members present: Jo Shaffer, Cheryl Kellogg, Dan Cross, Bob Nixon, Chris May, Steve Bornhoft.

Members missing: Jack Harvey, Diane Mouskourie.

After the chalice lighting and reading of the Board Covenant, Jo Shaffer welcomed everyone. She noted some additions to the original agenda, and passed around copies of the new version.

Previous Meeting Minutes

In the absence of Secretary, Diane Mouskourie, Chris May will be taking the minutes of the meeting. The minutes from previous meeting had been sent out by Diane Mouskourie to all for review. Members noted how well written the minutes were. Some changes were noted.

Under Treasurer's report –should read "...\$1250, which included the money from the ECPC fundraiser, was allocated from the previous year budget to fund the community garden project."

Under Faith Development – the first line should read "Jack advised Chris to ask the Faith Development Team to develop a workshop for members to create their own elevator speech to use when asked what Unitarian Universalism is."

Bob Nixon moved that the minutes be approved with corrections. Steve Bornhoft 2nd.
Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report

Steve Bornhoft went over the Treasurer's report, explaining monthly expenditures. Dan Cross noted that the cost of website hosting seemed excessive. Dan will contact Chris Arrant, who set up the system, and possibly Helen Johnson, who keeps it going, and will investigate less expensive options if it seems feasible.

Jo asked that the format for the report be updated to add border lines around the items she had added for the updated budgeting system. Steve said he would take care of that.

Chris May moved approval of Treasurer's Report. Cheryl Kellogg 2nd. Approved unanimously.

Resource Development

Jo Shaffer noted that many of the materials currently on the website are out of date, including the Five Year Plan and the budget. Contact for website updates is Helen Johnson(helenbythesea@yahoo.com). Jo will send her the current 5 year plan and Steve will send the current budget to her. Board members are encouraged to browse the site, and note out of date materials, particularly where it applies to Teams they are involved in.

Fall Harvest Fundraiser Steve Bornhoft has been looking into bands for a fall fundraiser. He thought it might cost \$500 for a band. He had concerns about parking and other logistics as well. BOD members were concerned that would be spending more than practical for a typical UUFBC fundraiser. Several ideas floated including making it multigenerational, centered around harvest. Having a contest for best scarecrow. Perhaps including stargazing- Bob Nixon volunteered a telescope for the event. Steve will take these under consideration.

Faith Development

Chris May noted that the team was losing key members. Arthur Smallidge (chair) is moving, as is Cindy Patterson (ushers/greeters.) In addition, there is no one on the Team currently responsible for RE, or Chalice Lighters. Al Burgermeister is doing a great job on recruiting worship leaders and musicians. Chris is responsible for Small Group Ministry.

Pastoral Care Proposal Chris May had sent a proposal around to the BOD earlier, and passed some copies around. She explained a bit more about the reasoning behind the structure she created. It is an effort to create a structure to provide both practical care, and some pastoral care/compassionate listening. There would be a team of people who would be the contacts for members/friends in need. They would contact people who expressed need during Joys & Concerns as well. These would meet- probably monthly- to keep up to date with needs and to do regular training. Invited to the meetings, particularly the training sessions, would be facilitators of small group ministry circles, and the Practical Care Associate. The latter would be in charge of implementing any necessary practical care using the spread sheet created from input from the members. This task would involve contacting people who might be willing to provide meals, transportation, etc. Cheryl Kellogg suggested that the office volunteers might be able to handle this part of the proposal.

Bob Nixon noted that he had been part of something similar at a previous congregation in a previous congregation. Apparently the congregation has lost members since he left and the system has broken down. Chris noted that she designed the structure in the hope that having one or two members leave or retire from the work would not affect the overall system. Part of the idea behind the structure would include involving people in caring for the community. That would make them feel more connected, and strengthen the fellowship. The training component could overlap with the BOD training, again creating deeper connections.

Jo wondered if the members of the small groups could be encouraged to take on the regular Sunday tasks like greeting/ushering. Chris thought that would be contraindicative to the purpose of the small groups. Perhaps asking them once a year would be OK. It should not be

considered a requirement for being part of a small group. Jo noted she was worried about the lack of volunteers for the weekly tasks. Cheryl suggested that the office staff could make phone calls asking for volunteers for specific weeks. The BOD agreed to think further about the proposal .

Yoga Class Proposal The Religious Exploration Coordinator, Tiffany Sapp, had sent around a proposal for a yoga class to be taught by Raechel Cline. Raechel is a former member of the fellowship, who is still a friend of UUFBC. She had been giving yoga instruction to the Caregivers Chalice Group, free, once a month for several months. She had then done an Adult RE session on Yoga for the fellowship that was quite well attended. The proposal was to have her do a class, with a suggested donation of \$5. Those who could afford to give, would. The BOD was uncomfortable with this suggestion donation. After much discussion, the suggestion of an honorarium after three months was raised. This would come out of the UUFBC budget. Bob Nixon moved authorizing the weekly class with A "love basket" allowing people to leave money and/or gifts. And if the class got a positive review after 3 months the UUFBC would consider providing an honorarium for Raechel. The hope would be that the class would continue. Cheryl Kellogg 2nd. Approved unanimously.

RE Coordinator's Report Tiffany Sapp continued her practice of sending a report of her activities to the BOD. The board noted that she has been working hard, and the program has been very good. In particular, Chris May noted that Tiffany is working on developing a fall workshop on the *elevator speech*, which Jack had specifically requested. Chris wondered whether that might be a good theme to create a service around- similar to the Small Group Ministry service done last year. The idea was well received.

Vision & Growth Dan Cross is the BOD member liaison to Vision and Growth. He noted that soon his job will preclude Sunday attendance, and Tuesday meetings. A suggestion was made to switch BOD meetings to a Thursday that didn't interfere with the Mens' Group. Mens' Group meets 2nd and 4th Thursday.

Dan says that not much has changed since last month on the V&G front. The Team is aware of the issue balancing growth and budget. They will be looking into the issues of space management in particular. More to come next month.

UU Environment Cheryl Kellogg reported as liaison for UU Environment. Al Clare has been out of town much of the summer, so there has been no progress on the water heater.

Physical Arrangements for Children's Programs there was a suggestion to move the office to the red schoolhouse. Concerns include the cost of doing electrical work and moving the cable/network out to that building. Since this is a Sunday only issue, Cheryl suggests using the current office for the nursery, making sure that all office materials are out of the way. The preschool through 1st grade is using the classroom, and the 2nd grade to 5th grade is using the School House. After service, the middle school and high school youth have a session –also in the School House. The BOD noted the success of the children's program, and the great job that Tiffany Sapp has done.

Social Justice Bob Nixon is liaison for the Social Justice Team. It was noted that the Team meetings are not in the church calendar. Chris May volunteered to get the meetings (1st

Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm) on the website calendar. That would mean they make it onto the weekly insert as well.

On September 19th the BYILD Program will celebrate its first anniversary with a social hour/dinner at the UUFBC at 6PM. That will be followed by an informal meeting to set the Event Schedule for the coming year. (Chris May will get this on the calendar as well.)

Events currently scheduled include the Gulf Coast State College “college night” on Sept. 11 from 6-8pm. And a car care session led by Michael Reid in August. On October 16, BYILD will take the foster teens to the Bay Center for a world series themed visit. The hope is that some of the teens will be willing to skits, readings, etc. There may also be a sing-a-long. In November there is hope to plan a bicycling activity with a naturalist included.

Bob Nixon worried that if Bob Gilmore leaves, all momentum will dissipate. We need to recruit more actively involved volunteers. (a common theme...) BYILD needs the participation of all UUFBC members and friends.

Additional Agenda Items:

- It was noted that there has been trouble getting BOD members to count the offering on Sundays. Cheryl volunteered to get the sign-up list from Ken Sizemore and send it out.
- Jo Shaffer was concerned that Hancock Bank, where the UUFBC currently has its funds, has been closing branches frequently. Steve Bornhoft volunteered to create proposals for new banking situation for next meeting.
- There has been some issues with the requirement for a refundable deposit against damages for anyone using the building for outside activity. Bob Nixon suggested that the Board reassert its policy on damages. Every registration requires a damage deposit of \$150, refundable if no damages occur. BOD approved unanimously.
- One more event- Greg Dossey of the Student Advocacy Center has asked PFLAG to present the movie “Bullied” . This movie was funded by the Southern Poverty Law Center. PFLAG has reserved the building on October 15th for this purpose. Cheryl Kellog moved that UUFBC sponsor this event- waiving the usual fee for building use. SB 2nd.
Approved Unanimously.

Jo Shaffer thanked the members for their good work.

Next Board Meeting: September 16th @ 6:30 p.m. if we keep to the current configuration of third Tuesday.

Submitted with love,
Chris May