

UUTC Board Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2022@ 5:30pm via ZOOM and In-Person

Present: Glenn Cockerham, Ian Cowie, Michael Griffith, Vicki Held, Gail Meyers, Quim Moya, Kay Webb, Alice Wellborn, Rev. Bob Renjilian, and RK Young.

Welcome, Check-In: The meeting opened with a check-in among those attending and a Mary Oliver reading by Vicki Held.

Approval of the Minutes: The August 25, 2022, meeting minutes were approved via email vote on 08/29/22 and sent to the Administrator for publishing.

Approval of Email Votes: *Kay moved to accept the following email votes for inclusion in the September minutes; the motion was seconded by Gail Meyers and approved.*

08/28/22 – Motion to approve the August 25, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes as presented was made by Ian Cowie and seconded by Glenn Cockerham; motion was approved on 08/29/22.

09/01/22 – Motion to release the \$250.00 allocated to a Peace Pole in the Capital Fund and use to purchase said Peace Pole, as requested by the Facilities Team, was made by Alice Wellborn, and seconded by Michael Griffith; motion was approved on 09/01/22.

Standing Updates: The following reports were accepted for the record:

Minister's Report – The report was shared with Board members prior to the meeting and highlighted Rev. Bob's activities since the August Board meeting. ~ He reflected on the theme of the September UUTC Retreat at The Mountain, "Where do we come from, what are we, where are we going?" He shared some of the comments by individuals during the final retreat session, where participants discussed what has given them positive energy at UUTC and how we might have more of that. He suggested that this is a good priority for leadership to go further in the discovery and dreaming of where we could be in the future. ~ In the wider UU movement, he met online with the regional cluster of UU ministers and with a book discussion group of UU Ministers. ~ Reflecting on the "next normal" for Sunday services, Rev. Bob reported that the Choir has expressed they no longer feel a need to test on Sunday mornings, so there will be a "pause" in that ritual; however, if necessary, we have enough COVID tests on hand to quickly reverse the "pause." He noted a rise in participation and re-engagement of members and friends. ~ In the area of Children's Religious Exploration, he reported that Sunday morning classes begin September 25th and he commended Kevin Lausch for participating in training for the OWL teacher certification for younger ages. ~ In Adult Religious Exploration, he reported that the Spiritual Exploration's classes, co-led by Ernie Mills and Carter Heyward, began in September with two well-attended sessions. ~ In pastoral care, Rev. Bob reported being in touch with congregants by phone and offering home visits if desired. He recognized the wonderful work done by LHHH in caring for congregants. ~ Other opportunities to make connections included joining several congregants for Sunday lunch at a local restaurant and attending the Fellowship-On-Tap send-off for Jon and James on September 12th. ~ In the area of worship, he reported on the technical difficulties of the Sunday service from The Mountain and on the Water Communion service on September 18th. With summer now over, he is back on schedule to be the worship leader most Sundays of the month. After meeting with the Worship Team and consulting CRE and the Choir, the consensus is to maintain a single Sunday service currently. Plans for various Holiday services are underway. Finally, he reported meeting with a group of ministers to discuss the upcoming Soul Matters themes. ~ In the wider community, he participated in an Ecusta Trail cleanup project. ~ He promoted upcoming UUTC events, including

the Emma's Revolution concert on September 25th, the UUTC Yard Sale on October 1st, and Wonderful Wednesday's dinner and program by Luanne Allgood on October 5th.

Treasurer's Report – Gail reported a current cash balance available (cash + money market) of \$56,000. Our average monthly expense is close to \$30,000, creating a deficit each month. Our current reserve available funds are \$42,000. We expect an increase in revenues as we near the end of the year with folks planning for tax deductions and RMD payments. However, these numbers indicate that the Board needs to watch the financial situation closely and to put significant efforts into fund raising events. In addition, the FY22-23 budget was cut severely due to pledge responses and is not covering many of the building maintenance expenses, again requiring alternative methods of raising funds.

Operations Report – RK's September report was shared with Board members prior to the meeting. ~ RK commended Rev. Bob for his patience and professionalism in providing ministerial experience and guidance to staff in modeling Program-Sized leadership and for leading an excellent Retreat at The Mountain. ~ She identified administrative goals that she is addressing this fiscal year: make communications more engaging and less cumbersome; use more images from staff training and community engagement in publications to make our work more apparent; make giving more accessible through new financial tools; increase reliable staff presence on site; streamline financial procedures; increase staff training in software tools; and renew our volunteer base. ~ She updated the Board on the status of certain spaces. At the Chalice House, the Facilities Team, particularly Bob Bennett, with the assistance of Hector Flores, is working to decrease the mustiness in the large meeting room; a privacy door has been installed between the kitchen and the main meeting room; Mac Heating and Air will service the house HVAC system in late October. In the main building, she will work with the Facilities Team to purge old items that no longer meet our needs. The grounds at our Northwest corner, starting at the UUTC sign, will be cleared, including removal of two trees, on October 18th to prepare for later installation of bog and rain gardens; this work, funded by the Grow Getters, will be done professionally by CMC Landscaping. ~ In the area of volunteer staffing, RK requested volunteers for the upcoming Yard Sale and for individuals to serve on an Auction Task Force planned for the Spring. ~ Finally, she discussed the Sponsored Projects list, highlighting the projects that she and the Ministry Teams deemed priorities. A few of the listed projects were not considered by Teams as they are being funded through current budgeted funds or through grants. She requested Board action on accepting designated gifts for Sponsored Projects.

Administration Committee Report – No report; the committee did not meet in September.

Finance Committee Report – No report; the committee did not meet.

Personnel Committee – No report; the committee did not meet.

Property Committee – No report; the committee did not meet.

Advisory Council – No report, as the Council is not fully staffed. Alice reported that Michael Solomon has summarized the responsibilities for individuals serving on the Council and that she and Michael will be approaching possible candidates for membership on the Council. They suggested that, once staffed, the initial task of the Council will be to revisit the 2020-2025 Vision Statement for possible revisions and to create a short summary of the multipage statement.

Old Business:

Sponsored Projects List – Prior to the meeting, RK sent Board members a list of sponsored project needs that Ministry Teams voted on as important to their mission. From the list, some projects will be funded through Team budgets, the Capital Fund, or grant-funding. The five remaining will need to be funded through donations. There was lengthy discussion on how to

best approach funding these five projects. ***Ian Cowie made a motion to accept gifts to five designated projects (1. complete sanctuary paint job, 2. outdoor security cameras, 3. social hall insulating shades, 4. choir chairs, 5. coated metal picnic tables), and, once these goals are met, any remaining gift funds will be rolled into the general Capital Fund. Gail seconded the motion. After further discussion, the motion was approved.*** RK will begin publicizing the projects list and opportunity to donate in future publications.

Fundraising Projects –

* The UUTC Yard Sale is scheduled for October 1, from 7:30am-10:30am. Items for the sale will be received at UUTC beginning Tuesday, September 27, through Friday, September 30, for pricing. Additional volunteers to assist with receiving and pricing items would be helpful.

* RK reported that she will have the e-bike raffle tickets ready for sale during the UUTC Yard Sale; the e-bike raffle will conclude with a winner selected at UUTC's venue at Brevard's Halloween Fest on October 29th. Volunteers to man the UUTC tent at Halloween Fest are welcome.

* Individuals who have volunteered to serve on a Spring Auction Task Force have begun initial discussions for the event.

New Business:

Reserve Funding vs. Sponsored Projects – The Board referred the issue of how the Reserve Fund can be used to the Finance Committee for discussion and guidance.

Board Calendar Review: October – Ministry/Minister Annual Review, General Operating Fund Discussion

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:10PM.

Next Scheduled Board Meeting: October 27, 2022, at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Webb,
Secretary