

**UUC Board Meeting
February 14, 2019**

Present: Reverend Pam Phillips (Ex- officio), Ellen Plummer (President), Steve Keighton (President-Elect), Dan Kominsky (Member-at-Large), Irene Peterson (Secretary), Nancy Norton (Member-at-Large). **Absent:** Amy Pruden-Bachi (Member-at-Large).

Chalice Lighting, Reading, and Check-In were completed. The board welcomed Nancy, thanked Sandy for her budget wrangling, and celebrated Pam's positive review from the UU Ministerial Fellowship Committee.

Review and Accept Agenda: The agenda was accepted.

Member Forum: no member present.

Consent Agenda: Discussed and Approved.

Minister's Report

Administrator's Report

DLPD's Report

January 2019 Meeting Minutes

Calendar review and board assignments: Dan volunteered to write the newsletter article for March. It is due February 29th. Irene will cover New to UU on 2/17, Ellen will cover New Member ceremony on 2/24. Nancy and Pam will attend the Stewardship meeting on 2/17. Executive committee meets 3/5 and board meets on 3/14. Board members will explore the possibility of meeting an additional time, possibly in March.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy gave the Treasurer's report. There was a question about the Facilities Manager and Repairs and Maintenance line items. Sandy will investigate.

Executive Session: The board went into executive session to discuss and decide upon a personnel matter. The board came out of executive session. In the interest of providing sufficient time to discuss a proposed budget in preparation for discussion with Stewardship, the board voted and agreed to re-order the agenda to discuss the budget. Old Business agenda items will be addressed at a subsequent meeting.

New Business: Proposed Budget - A lengthy discussion was held regarding a proposed 2019-2020 budget. Each line item was reviewed, and suggestions were given for changes or questions in some of the areas. The board agreed on a target amount for Pam and Nancy to discuss with the Stewardship committee.

Distribution of board-related documents – The board agreed on a plan for posting the agenda to the website prior to the board meeting, and to a plan for submitting approved minutes and accepted staff reports for posting to the website. The board will work closely with Pam and Irene to insure that the board posts appropriate documents in a timely fashion.

Deferred Agenda Items: Due to time constraints, these agenda items are deferred:

Long Range Planning – Holy Conversations (planning book)

Review Board Goals

Sending folks to GA – vote to reallocate funds

Next Reading: Irene Peterson
Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM

UUC Board Meeting Agenda
February 14, 2019

7:00-7:15
Chalice Lighting and Reading
Check-in

7:15 - 7:20
Review and Accept Agenda

7:20-7:25
Member Forum

7:25-7:30
Consent Agenda: Approve
 Minister's Report
 Administrator's Report
 DLFD's Report
 Previous Meeting Minutes

7:30-7:40
Treasurer's Report

7:40-8:00
Old Business
 Long Range Planning – Holy Conversation
 Review Board Goals
 Sending folks to GA – vote to reallocate funds

8:00 – 8:30
New Business
 Review and discuss budget

Upcoming
Spring initiatives

February 2019 Minister's Report to the Board
Submitted by Rev. Pam Philips

Leads Worship

January's theme was Possibility. We explored what's possible individually, including the practice of choosing a word for the year instead of the usual resolution. We considered what might be possible in achieving Dr. King's dream of racial equity and how we might increase our understanding and empathy when we sing songs important to people of color. I was pleased to see several members of UUC at the MLK celebration that afternoon at Schaeffer Memorial Baptist Church. Our service on possibilities as a congregation was postponed because of snow and ice, but we had a great response when we held it the first Sunday in February. Congregants created "bumper stickers" advertising what they love about the congregation and identifying what we might do in the future. The suggestions will be shared with the board in a spreadsheet. Gratitude to worship associate Victoria Taylor for her reflection and the greeters who helped pass out supplies during the service.

February's theme is Trust. Because we wanted to show a video anyway, we used the large television for hymn lyrics and unison readings. While there is still some resistance to technology in the sanctuary, people seemed to appreciate the ability to sing without hymnals. I trust that those who are reluctant will find TV less obtrusive to worship than they imagine.

We will again be hosting a Lenten service (if it doesn't snow) on March 27th, with Mike Ellerbrock from St. Mary's Catholic Church preaching on Chastity and Temperance over Lust and Gluttony.

Officiates Rites of Passage

We haven't had any rites of passage since my last board report. We'll have a new member recognition ceremony the last Sunday in February.

Provides Pastoral Care and Presence

I continue to visit with congregants in my office, at their homes and at the hospital. Some of my meetings have led to new assignments for the lay pastoral care ministry team. Pastoral needs ebb and flow at different times of the year. While the LPCM has held services, offers to meet people after each Sunday service, and has a bulletin board, it is also helpful if members of the congregation remind each other of this ministry when they hear about people experiencing difficult times. The last newsletter had an article letting people know that the loss of a pet is one of those times when an LPCM associate could provide care.

Encourages Spiritual Development

The small groups continue to meet, and I've become more intentional about including some of the spiritual practices and other resources from the Soul Matters packets into worship services. Everyone in the congregation has access to the [small group ministry materials](#), whether they are in a small group or not. The password is got soul.

Witnesses to Social Justice in the Public Square

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy “Day for All People” in Richmond on the 22nd of January was lightly attended by people from this part of the state (three of us from Blacksburg and two from Roanoke), but we met with our representatives and learned about key legislation. Lobbying that late in the process seems ineffective, though, so I will be encouraging us to meet with our delegates and senator much earlier—late summer or early fall—next year so we can advocate more effectively.

I appreciated the people who responded with feedback on the Statement of Conscience—Leslie Hager-Smith, Tim Pickering, Isabel Berney, Nancy Bodenhorn, Dick Bauman, Frank and Marilyn DuPont—and included their suggestions in an online form from the UUA. The DuPonts made these suggestions directly to the UUC board: “We strongly urge the Board to initiate quarterly information/feedback meetings following the Sunday service to keep the Congregation engaged with governance and polity, and to actualize participatory democracy. We would also urge the Board and Finance Committee to include funding the cost of tables at the annual NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet.”

The Dialogue on Race winter summit was very well-attended, including several members of UUC, and a few of us (Barbara Taylor, Jamie McReynolds, and myself) served as facilitators for the breakout groups. Likewise, UUC hosted two workshops facilitated by trained moderators of Better Angels, a national organization aimed at bridging the divide between conservatives and liberals, which were also well attended. Thanks to Jamie McReynolds for organizing this.

Virginia Organizing is planning a community forum on March 2nd as part of their school-to-prison pipeline campaign (tentatively scheduled for the Christiansburg Library). More information will be forthcoming, but I hope members of our community who have children in the public schools will attend.

Leads Administration

I’m collating the congregation’s suggestions for what we might do as a congregation and think they will be a good starting place as we engage in the Holy Conversation about our long-range plans. Lots of great ideas.

I met with Dick Luke to discuss additions to the building committee budget (including replaced flooring in the kitchen and bathrooms). He had a good suggestion about putting cabinets in the table/chair storage room off Elarth Hall. We could create adequate locked storage and they would be less expensive than cabinets that are in a more public space.

I met with the DLFD to go over her professional expense needs for the upcoming year, which include an interview for her certification, the LREDA conference (which is being held in Maryland this year and so is much more affordable than other venues), and the 2020 General Assembly. Consequently, I’m asking for us to fund her professional expenses at 10% this year (suggested best practice).

I met with the grounds committee, who discussed their budget requests. One significant request has to do with replacing the playground equipment so that it serves a wider-age range (currently it is for very young children).

I met with the leadership development committee, which is developing a spreadsheet of potential leaders and beginning to identify people to fill the slate of board members and officers for the coming year.

Pursues Personal Renewal and Professional Development

I am pleased to report that I was granted my first renewal of Preliminary Fellowship from the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of the UUA. This is the first of three renewals before I am granted final fellowship. The letter was congratulatory, including “We commend your recognition that self-care, delegation and spiritual practice are areas of needed development and encourage you to remember that ministry is not a sprint. . .” I’m grateful for the work of the Committee on Ministry and the Board on their evaluations. Only two more to go!

Serves the Larger Unitarian Universalist Faith

I was pleased to participate in the ordination of Rev. Lee Anne Washington in Richmond on January 27th, after attending worship at the First Unitarian Church in Lynchburg that morning. I have been invited to participate in another ordination on May 4th on Martha’s Vineyard.

I’m also beginning to make plans for attending this year’s [General Assembly](#) in Spokane, Washington from June. The theme this year is “The Power of We.” While it is far away, I encourage people to attend in person or by watching live-stream of some of the events.

**Administrator's Report to the Board
February 14, 2019**

Certification with UUA: All the required information was submitted to the UUA by the February 1 deadline including the yes response to congregational poll on the draft Statement of Conscience (thank you to the Board) and the Congregational Questionnaire that Pam helped me with.

Attendance/Members: See online Google Doc. There is a new member ceremony on Feb. 24, so number will go up.

Stewardship Committee: I will attend the meeting on February 17.

New Childcare Worker: We've hired one new sitter for the nursery who came highly recommended by one of our members. She starts Feb. 24. Still looking for 1-2 more.

DLFD Report to the Board – February 2019

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Registration

- CYRE: 127
- LFD Activity Slots: 167
- UUC Activity Slots: 182

Registration is up 9% over this time last year.

This Month

- America Inside Out with Katie Couric continues this month with an episode on political correctness.
- The spring semester began January 27, introducing the new “D’Oh, God! Book II” curriculum for middle school. This new curriculum featuring *The Simpsons* deals with social justice themes, including immigration, sexism, environmental justice, LGBTQ rights, gun rights, animal rights, and more.
- K-1 and 4-5 OWL began January 27 and will run through April, meeting on Sunday, late afternoons. A short-term covenant group for parents of kids registered in 4-5 OWL will meet monthly, beginning February 10, facilitated by Jennifer Mercier. Several families contributed our requested voluntary \$25 activity fee for this class.
- YRUU is holding an online fundraiser during the month of February, using our standard credit card system.
- YRUU has begun planning for the upcoming Coffeehouse in March and for the trip to Mountain CON in April.
- I completed the Renaissance Module on the Philosophy of RE. I continue to work on my Credentialing Portfolio, meeting via phone with my mentor every 6 weeks.

Upcoming Dates

- 2/25: America Inside Out
- 3/1: Social Justice Film Series
- 3/8: YRUU Coffeehouse