

Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 8, 2016

**Present:** Board members Tim Pickering, Jennifer Mercier, Bill Baker, Bob Stimson; ex officio member Don Rollins

The chalice was lit. Jennifer served as Process Observer.

There was not a quorum present.

**I. Strategic Planning Committee Update:** Tim stated that the Strategic Planning Committee will gather information on our vision and develop a process to create our plan.

**II. DLFD Update:** The sabbatical paperwork has been agreed to. The DLFD's contract wording is being developed.

**III. Treasurer's Report:** An email vote will be taken to permit moving money from NBB to a new Vanguard account.

**IV. Governance:** A pamphlet from UUFR, which was shared by Tim, was discussed. Future plans of our LDC workshops were discussed.

**V. New Business:** The evaluation form for the Interim Minister needs to be completed by all board members and returned to Tim by December 24<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to accept a \$1000 donation for work on our grounds will be voted on by email.

Board priorities for the budget process will be identified at a special board meeting. Each board member needs to send his/her initial budget priorities ideas to Tim by December 20. The meeting date will be determined soon.

The updating of the UUC policies was discussed. The idea of the board, on a monthly basis, taking a section from the policy book and updating it was discussed.

**VI. Next Meeting:** January 12, 2017 at 7PM. Susan will provide the readings, Bonnie will be the process observer and a volunteer for refreshments is needed.

**VII. Process Observer Report:** because of the lack of a quorum, the meeting was very informal and many interesting discussions took place. All went well.

UUC BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
Thursday, December 8, 2016

7:00-7:05	Chalice Lighting & Reading (Susan)	5 Minutes
7:05- 7:10	Review and Accept Current Agenda	5 Minutes
7:10-7: 15	Members Forum	5 Minutes
7:15-7:25	Check-in	10 Minutes
7:25-7:35	DFLD Update	10 Minutes
7:35-7:45	Minister and Staff Reports Administrator's Reports DLFD's Reports	10 Minutes
7:45-7:55	Treasurer's Report	10 Minutes
7:55-8:00	Consent Agenda and Old Business Previous Board minutes for November—approve	5 Minutes
8:00-8:10	Break and Refreshments (Bill)	10 Minutes
8:10-8:40	New Business Board Priorities Brainstorming	30 Minutes
8:40-8:45	Action Items: Board secretary Description (Tim)	5 Minutes
8:45-9:00	Governance Discussion	15 Minutes
9:00-9:05	Information Items Timeline, special events	5 Minutes
9:05-9:15	Select refreshments, process observer, and closing words volunteers for October Process Observer Report (Jennifer) Extinguish Chalice	10 Minutes
Next meeting: January 12, 2017		

## REPORT TO THE UUC BOARD

Don Rollins

12-8-16

Big Picture: I think we're hitting our stride on the various pastoral/program efforts. The board knows better than anyone at UUC how slow things have to move, but I hope you'll give yourselves credit for staying the course. Keep up the good work!

Strategic Planning: It always takes time for SP teams to get comfortable with policy governance and terminology, but the group is making progress. They're on schedule to have a draft vision process/strategic plan model by May.

Stewardship: It's taken a couple of meetings and lots of research, but the committee has settled on a hybrid model using both cottage meetings and one-on-one visits. Their next task is to calendar and plan the 2016-17 generosity drive. (My terminology...)

Transition Team: We met for the first time last month, and discussed current trends in congregational studies, governance and some aspects of the interim year.

Social Justice Model: I met with Janet Sawyers to walk through the model you and I reviewed in September. She's contacting those recently active in that area, with the goal of scheduling a meeting to get feedback on the plan. Assuming their support, the next step is to develop a simple survey to identify the 3-5 top issues most pressing to respondents, create action plans for each, and begin educating the congregation prior to choosing one at the Annual Meeting.

Leadership Development: I met with Marilyn DuPont and Jim Flowers to outline a basic program to prepare new UUC leaders as well as support those currently serving. We'll hold the first session in mid-February.

LPCM: I continue to meet bi-monthly with Cynthia Luke to review pastoral needs. Cynthia has indicated she wants to begin training others to take on her role as coordinator.

MHJM: I attended their last meeting, and learned more about their work. I also addressed one concern that the justice model I'm offering would negatively impact their program – which it definitely won't.

Worship: We continue to review recent services, and discuss/schedule future lay-led dates. I need to follow up with Jared and Pat Traynor to check for progress on the list of tasks they want to add to the music program.

Search: I continue to sit in on meetings once or twice each month, mostly to answer questions related to settled ministers and what they look for during search.

Coffeehouse: We had 38 in attendance, and had a great time despite the power outage at the church. I've moved us to Elarth, which definitely helped the ambiance.

My Schedule: I'll leave for Ohio after the 12/24 service, and return on 12/31 in order to do the New Year's Day service at UUC. Allowing for a day-off, I'll be using four vacation days.

## **Administrator's Report to the Board December 8, 2016**

**Internet Service:** Just to keep you updated – Comcast has increased the speed offered for our internet service and discontinued the service at our previous speed. Unfortunately this results in an increased cost of \$30/month. However, we have a “deal” where we are locked in for 2 years for only a \$10/month increase. Comcast recommended we purchase our own modem which will save \$15/month. The one they recommended only has 1 port, but 4 are needed, so working for further options. Once we have one, Joe Parrish will work on the installation.

**Concert for Blacksburg Refugee Partnership (BRP):** Lisa Liske-Durandish who runs the cello school that uses our space proposed holding a spring concert at UUC (rent-free) to benefit BRP. She would arrange for many talented musicians to participate and asked for help from UUC with coordinating the event. I contacted Jane Aronson and Molly McClintock who quickly replied that they are very interested in helping as would the many others in our congregation who are active in BRP. I am assuming that the many other faith-based and community organizations participating in BRP would also be interested in supporting the event. The actual date will be selected shortly. This is a wonderful opportunity for UUC to host an important community event.

**Purchasing Folding Tables:** Each year we rent 6-7 6' folding tables at a cost of about \$9 each for the holiday multi-generational service. There are also other events where more tables would be useful. So the plan is to purchase 6 tables for the service on Dec. 11 at a cost of \$40-50 each using contingency funds. Bill has approved this purchase. There is no money in the building budget for the tables. Buying more tables has been talked about for years, so finally time to do it.

**Committee Meetings:** Attended Auction & Stewardship Committee meetings last month.

**Attendance/Members:** See online Google Doc.

**Vacation:** Although I will not be taking time off during the holidays this month, I will be out of the country January 3-16. As I will not be bringing my computer or working from afar, I will arrange for the necessary work to be done during my absence.

## **DLFD Report to the Board – December 2016**

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

### **Registration**

- Current CYRE: 109 (unique children/youth)
- Children & Youth UUC “slots”: 162

Please note this number continues to grow, with several new families still in the beginning stages of visiting. We seem to have a new family about every week.

### **This month:**

- Dumbledore’s Army collected approximately 1000 books in their donation drive, which were first used as a fundraiser for YRUU’s trip to Boston. YRUU raised \$754. Remaining children’s books were donated to the Christmas Store and adult books to the Little Library program through the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library.
- YRUU will host an auction dinner on December 3. The dinner raised \$455 for UUC.
- Mitten Tree Sunday will be held on December 4, as a joint project of LFD, Dumbledore’s Army and CST. We are collecting mittens, gloves, scarves, hats and children’s coats, with all items donated to the Christmas Store.
- 27 pairs of Buddies will be meeting at the multi-generational service on December 11. This year’s No Rehearsal Pageant will be “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer”. I am joined by Ellen Plummer, Victoria Jackson and Willie Caldwell, with Jared contributing the music (possibly with Don included in the House Band). Should be a fun time!
- Our Coming of Age youth and mentors will be serving as greeters for the December 11 multi-generational service, to fulfill a request to provide service to UUC as part of the program. After the service, the group will be going to NRV Superbowl for some social time: bowling, laser tag and bumper cars.
- Regular RE classes will be held on December 18 (a departure from past years, when an All Ages RE class was held the Sunday before Christmas). We will be directly encouraging parents who are still in town to attend, as most classes will be making some great gifts! There will be no RE on December 25 or January 1.
- OWL will begin in January, with 11 children registered for K-1 OWL and 13 children registered for 4-5 OWL. 4-5 OWL has been moved to the Library to accommodate the large group. K-1 OWL (in which parents also attend) will be held downstairs in rooms 1-4. This age range does not require a lock-down of the church; we will be posting signs on the downstairs door and library door denying entrance to these areas unless involved in the program.

### **Consulting**

FYI, I will be attending the UUCR board meeting on December 13. Plans are underway to begin a soft relaunch of their CRE program at the end of January with a full line-up of classes. Already, they’ve seen an increase in children attending and returning.