

Minutes TUCW Board of Trustees
Monday March 11, 2013

Present: Steve Axthelm, Randy Burnham, Chuck Colletti, Denny Davidoff, Frank Hall, Lyn Hamilton, Bobbie Herman, Michele Garvey, Kristen Leddy, Sal Mollica, Ed Thompson, Ken Vogel

Absent: Ted Yang

Staff: Mary Collins, David Vita, John Carroll

Participants:

COM – Cheryl Paul, Chair, Elaine McMillan, Mary Elizabeth Peterson, Rob Zuckerman

Finance Committee: Art Ulrich

Our Future Story – Mary Money, Jim Francek, Lynn Kobsa, Cathy Groell

Observers: Diana Bell, Laura Steinbrecher, John Mason

Meeting called to order by Chuck Colletti at 7:35 PM

Meeting began with check-in.

Observers: No comments

Approval 03/01 EC minutes : Moved Leddy, Second Garvey. Passed.

President's Report: Colletti reported that the 11 AM collection plate offering was misplaced or stolen. Further security measures have been put in place. The pledge campaign is proceeding slowly but productively. We received an offer of \$750,000 for the Sheila Lane house which was not acceptable. A tax bill of \$3000 looms.

Response to Staff Reports: Collins continues to spend many hours weekly, like ten or more, to recruit volunteers and fill last minute cancellations. Mary Elizabeth Peterson reported that the RE Council is investigating a software system for volunteer management. Laura Steinbrecher suggested that these cancellations represent a cultural problem within the congregation. Trustees expressed concern.

Delegates to Metro District Annual Meeting and GA: Davidoff is holding

paperwork to certify ten TUCW delegates to each meeting as well as alternates. The District AM will be held in Morristown, NJ May 4 evening and May 5 to mid-afternoon. General Assembly is June 19-24 in Louisville, KY. The GA Planning Committee is offering scholarship monies for Youth Caucus participants. Travel, lodging and registration expenses are tax deductible.

Treasurer's Report: Vogel said the 2014 budget is "on track" and the Finance Committee has begun to work on the 2014 operating budget.

Sheila Lane: Ulrich and Vogel explained a plan recommended by the Finance Committee whereby we would use some of the congregation's reserves to pay off the bank loan and then repay it with interest on a regular basis. Mollica expressed strong support as well. The plan requires cooperation with the Endowment Committee which has not as yet had a face-to-face meeting with Ulrich and Vogel. Following a long discussion, Colletti asked for a sense of the meeting and all hands around the board table were raised in affirmation.

TF on Elderly/Disabled Access: Herman will have an update for the April meeting. Work is going forward with assistance from Dan Valentine. Herman will try to recruit other from the congregation to work with her and generate more ideas.

Interim Minister Search Committee: Leddy reported that the Committee had an interesting and productive meeting with UUA Transitions Director, Rev. Keith Kron and Ministerial Settlement Rep for the Metro District, Rev. Craig Hirschberg. The formal application is being finalized and she is in discussion with Charles Klein about a website packet for interested candidates.

Ministerial Transition Committee: Garvey and Vogel assured that all was going well concerning the various issues the group is working on. For this evening, their focus was the draft Emeritus resolution to be presented at the June 9 Annual Meeting of the congregation. Members of the board asked questions about the draft and questioned some of its assertions, mostly focused on the role Hall might play in the congregation and within the community following retirement. After considerable discussion, with Hall participating with vigor, particularly regarding the need for covenantal relations between himself and the interim minister as well as with the eventual called minister, Colletti requested a sense of the meeting which indicated strong support for the general content of the resolution.

Note: Concerns about pastoral care provisions during the interim minister's tenure came up in both the Interim Minister Search and Ministerial Transition

Committees reports.

Our Future Story: Money distributed the latest strategic plan outline which is divided into seven discrete sections. She, and her leadership colleagues, Jim Francek, Lynn Kobsa and Cathy Groell, received congratulations and praise for the body of work and the processes that created it. Following discussion and questions, Money suggested to the trustees that they make each of the seven sections the centerpiece of an OFS time at each board meeting commencing in September.

Committee on Ministries: Cheryl Paul, first year chair, related the earliest experiences of the CO which have largely included getting to understand the nature of the work they are undertaking and getting to know each other as colleagues. Going forward, they intend to concentrate on their assessment function as stated in the bylaws. What is it? How to do it?

New Business: At the urging of Davidoff, the BOT agreed to take responsibility for identifying what is needed to repair the organ, contracting for the necessary repairs and finding the funds to pay for them. She and Thompson will convene a small group from both the BOT and the Music Committee to make this happen, hopefully over the summer.

Process Observations: Vogel thought this was “an excellent meeting” with much business attended to in record time.

Thank yous and Assignments: Davidoff will send handwritten notes to the OFS folks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Taft Davidoff, Clerk