

Minutes TUCW Board of Trustees

Monday September 10, 2012

Present: Steve Axthelm, Randy Burnham, Chuck Colletti, Denny Davidoff, Michelle Garvey, Frank Hall, Lyn Hamilton, Kristen Leddy, Sal Mollica, Ken Vogel, Ted Yang

Absent: Bobbie Herman

Staff: Mary Collins, John Carroll, David Vita

Participants: Tom Hearne, Mary Money, Lyn Thompson

Observers: Carolyn Lavender, Tom Croakin

Meeting called to order by Chuck Colletti at 7:40 PM

Open Forum for Observers: Croakin heard that the BOT has resolved to change our name and he was upset with this news. Colletti assured him that what he had heard was not true and, indeed, the matter of name change was nowhere on the BOT agenda. Hall and others further spoke about name change conversations popping up from time to time in our and other UU congregations and that this was to be expected and certainly not condemned.

Approval 8/31 EC minutes : Moved Mollica, Second Hamilton. Passed.

Chair's Comments: Colletti expressed gratitude to Ken and Jerusha Vogel for a long term gift to fund a Membership Coordinator position, to John Carroll for his oversight of the arduous carpet laying week and to Linda Hudson for arranging and executing both the summer services program and the successful August tag sale. He was pleased with the outcome of the Sly Like A Fox reception and auction on 9/8 and announced that \$10,000 would be donated to the Michael J. Fox Parkinsons's Foundation and \$5000 added to the TUCW operating fund. Kudos for the work of Jim Keenan were raised by several trustees.

Staff concerns: Collins' DRE report raised concerns about lack of Facebook and other social media policy and need for a policy regarding supervision of children at times when there is no scheduled RE activity. She also asked if there would be budget for a second RE ad campaign near the winter holidays (Colletti said there would not.) and about a comparative of a ministerial relations committee for her. Colletti suggested that the new Committee on Ministries would be the evaluative body for the religious education program.

Policies of BOT and Congregation: Yang is looking for non-BOT people to join his task force. He has set up a Google site for capturing policies we already have. <https://sites.google.com/site/tucwpolicies/>

Update: Voices Café Vita had sent a comprehensive financial review of the past year as well as anticipated revenues and expenses for the current year. Everyone was pleased and congratulatory. The program is filling a need, producing income, and bringing non-members onto the campus for concerts.

Discussion about Saugatuck Congregational Church: There was agreement that we as a board need to separate out business issues, i.e., rentals, from a philanthropic gesture as neighborly good will. We need to better understand what expenses the SCC has that are being covered by their insurance and what are the parameters of the fundraising they are undertaking. Carroll and Axthelm will explore these questions for the October meeting.

Hall Retirement Transition Committee: Garvey reported that the committee had met twice, once with the celebratory group headed by Diana Bell, and that pieces were being put in place and all is well. A communications plan and schedule of events will be available soon. Garvey will meet with Ken Lanouette to be certain he feels his concerns are being addressed.

Update: Our Future Story

Hearne, Money and Thompson presented a comprehensive three part report. Hearne reviewed the Spring 2012 Appreciative Inquiry process, Thompson reviewed activities undertaken by the OFS Committee over the summer, and Money reviewed the upcoming Fall activities scheduled to complete the plan which would result in a strategic plan being ready for the December BOT meeting.

Update: RE Council

Leddy detailed the enormous amount of work put in by RE Council members to search for, interview, hire, orientate and accommodate the new DRE, Mary Collins. She also lifted up the schedule of Youth Outreach activities that had been prepared by Jamie Forbes prior to stepping down. The coordinating and execution of this work will be undertaken by a team of volunteers.

Update: Voices Cafe

Treasurer's Report: Vogel and the Finance Committee regret that final 2011-12 numbers are still not reconciled due to the absence of a new bookkeeper. The search

goes on. The necessity of finding an Asst. Treasurer was also raised.

Communications: Axthelm reported that staff training on the new database would commence with Vogel tomorrow (Tuesday) morning at 10. Michael Field is working on how we can get You Tube videos from the UUA and other UU venues up on our website. Further conversation regarding Facebook and other social media followed.

New Business:

MOVED: Axthelm

Second: Davidoff

The Board of Trustees accepts a generous gift from Ken and Jerusha Vogel to be used exclusively to fund the work of a congregational Membership Coordinator for fifteen hours weekly. The position will be filled initially by David Vita commencing 9/16/12. The Vogel gift will be spread over four years as follows:

Year 1, \$16,000, Year 2, \$16,000, Year 3, \$10,667 (2/3), Year 4, \$5333 (1/3). Vita will present a job description for discussion and approval at the October 8 BOT meeting

PASSED

Thank yous and Assignments: Garvey will thank Jim Keenan for Sly Like A Fox planning and execution.

Process Observations: Mollica expressed satisfaction with the substantive nature of the agenda items. Problem of sidebar conversation and talking over speakers remains but spirits are high.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Taft Davidoff, Clerk