



BoT Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, August 18, 2021 6:00PM**

**6:00 Lighting the chalice** Opening words: Suzanne

**6:02 Check In**

**In attendance:** Maureen Bauman, Suzanne Borth, Hank Florence, Rick Caspers-Ross, John Bohland, Rev Alex da Silva Souto, Marsha von Dessoneck, Ann Denison

**Missing:**

**6:10 Finance**

- Ann/Marsha to answer questions about financials

Need approval of funds for tree removal and trimming bid of \$3860. There is a \$3000 maintenance budget so we need board approval to add this expense due to the previous approval for RE pipe reconfiguration for \$1200. Additional concern is that we still need sidewalk repair. Maureen moved to approve the expenditure of \$3860. John seconded. It was unanimously approved.

**6:20 Meeting Minutes**

- Review and Approve July Regular BOT meeting minutes. Marsha moved and Hank seconded. Unanimously approved.

**6:27 Confirm meeting for August.**

- Wednesday 9/15 /21 @ 6:00pm
- Opening words by Hank
- Maureen will be away

**6:30 Thank you notes** Pattiey for all her additional work

**6:35 Feedback on Rev AJ per request of UUA**

- Shared ministry
  - What went well?
    - Appreciated his willingness to collaborate
    - His ability with technology definitely helped our transition to online services and communication

- Easy to talk to and a good listener
- His connections and awareness to the religion on a national level
- Very good at conflict resolution
- What were biggest challenges
  - Very cerebral sermons but lacked heart and soul the congregation may have also desired. There was also concerns about the lack of variety.
  - There was some administrative difficulties around timeliness of reports and follow up with board tasks
  - Had some trouble reaching out and communicating with congregants
- What did we learn?
  - We appreciate collaboration
  - We need head and heart in our relationships in the Sunday services
  - Realistic expectations of a newly-minted seminarian
  - We found out what we were looking for in a minister
- Why did ministry end?
  - The minister's family had to leave due to health concerns
- How was conflict handled during ministry?
  - He leaned into conflict and modeled it for the congregants. We were very appreciative and impressed.
- How was ministry shared between minister, staff, and lay people?
  - He engaged congregants in sermons, adult religious education and cultivated lay leaders
- Were there any cultural shifts during this ministry?
  - Reintroduced and started the process of Widening the Circle and anti-racism
- What are our hopes for the future of this congregation's ministry? Any concerns?
  - Find a new contract minister based on our newly determined needs. (accomplished)
- Anything else you want the UUA to know? No TO BE REDACTED BEFORE PUBLISHING

## 6:50 Congregational COVID Policy Planning Debrief and updates

- Areas still needing to clarify:

How we will "Share the Plate" - It will return to normal but we can pass the hand sanitizer after it (if the usher feels good)

We will refer to it as live-streaming.

The website will be reconfigured to focus on the youtube stream and less focus on Zoom link which will only be used administratively

2nd service will live stream

We can we put stones in water for joys/concerns

Can we mingle in masks prior to service? - we don't know how to police this... so we will not add any reference to before the service.

Rules that will be on the wall and projected, welcome from pulpit will include our Covid policies, as well

Considered live vocal performance but the majority decided to postpone for the time being. Will reconsider as Delta variants change, our children can get vaccinated, and/or get used to all the new policies and procedures.

- Maureen will add these determinations and finalize the policy.

### **7:05 Minister update and any action**

- Rev Alex updated us verbally but will submit written reports in future months. Has focused on sharing time between office hours and sharing time in public places and congregants homes in his first 2 ½ weeks. Established regular Tuesday meetings with the administrator. Has also worked with music director, Pattie and Religious Education Director, Adrean. Working with Worship team on moving forward and will leading his first service this Sunday. Been able to hold their own Sabbath on Fridays each week. They are making contacts with local clergy and the larger community. Was able to spend a full day at the Men's group retreat. Hoping to be available to each team to build relationships. They have already met with Membership, Finance, Pastoral Care, and Stewardship.

Maureen clarified the use of Study Leave as an option to meet Alex's needs in terms of necessary UUA transfer needs and events. And there is some budget that can be used toward these endeavors, as well. Alex said UUA has some funds as well. We will continue the conversation.

### **7:15 Thinking Ahead**

- Youth leader discussion is ongoing. Friday youth group will be returning in September. The CYRE team will be meeting this coming week. There is a RE Picnic Saturday.
- Picnic September 12<sup>th</sup> (9:00 am to 2:00 pm) it's at REGIONAL Park not the traditional Recreational Park
- Auburn Festival of Lights and Martin Luther King Celebration to consider as good exposure and camaraderie

- Further discussion on the roof and the possible need for the capital campaign

### **7:20 ACTION item review**

Maureen- ask Vicky for thank you notes for the board

John- Thank you note for Pattiey

### **7:25 Right Relations**

### **7:35 Adjourn**

Marsha-

- Stewardship/Fundraising- looking at fall fundraiser. Storytelling again? Determining feasibility of having something at SFUU.
- Committee Council- Looking to schedule an October date

Ann-

- Finance
- Membership- working on reconfiguring the opener/closer and usher roles

Suzanne-

- Worship- New Worship team is formed based on the
- Denominational Affairs

John-

- Buildings and Grounds- discussed with Marsha, Tom and Bob on issues noted above
- Adult RE- opened lines of communication but next meeting won't be until September

Rick-

- Social Justice- August 30 discussion on Social Justice opened to the full congregation

Hank-

- Caring Committee- going to meet in September. Note change in date (9/29 @ 4pm).
- Children/Youth RE- open communication but nothing of note to report

Maureen-

- Communications- no updates

### **Bike Rack:**