



BoT Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 6:00PM

6:00 Lighting the chalice Opening words: Rev Alex

“I can do nothing for you but work on myself...
you can do nothing for me but work on yourself!”

~Ram Dass, *Be Here Now*

*“[May we have] the courage to awaken to greater truth, greater humility,
and greater care for one another.*

*May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts,
trusting in [the] eternal presence and love.”*

~Richard Rohr

6:02 Check In

6:15 Meeting Minutes

- Review and approve August BOT meeting minutes
 - Hank moved, Ann seconded unanimous with redaction

6:20 Finance

- Income Statement reviewed
 - No questions or discussion
- P&L reviewed
 - No questions or discussion

- Tree and sidewalk

Marsha got 3 bids for pine tree removal (and clean-up of other trees) of, and all fell between \$4000 & \$4500.

Marsha also worked with an arborist to look at the pine tree in question who noted there were moths and fungus (which are easily treatable) but otherwise the tree is in good shape.

Bid with Acorn (the recommendation from the arborist, and one of the previous bids for removal) for the treatment and trimming is approximately \$2000 to save the tree and clean up the other trees.

Marsha has only been able to get a plan from one concrete specialist. It will cost \$5000 to fix the sidewalk. Marsha has one more reference that she will follow up with.

- Report for Buildings and Grounds chair, Bob Niblack:

Please consider that taking out the large pine tree at the corner of the church might be the best cost effective solution, long-term, for completing this project successfully. It has several advantages:

- No chemical application required (What biocide is being considered for application? Do we have MSDS sheets for that substance? Must we take steps to reduce exposure to humans?)
- Removing the tree will remove the danger of falling limbs. This tree, without provocation, dropped a 10-inch diameter limb over the walkway and sidewalk three years ago.
- When this tree's roots are removed from under the sidewalk during the construction of the new sidewalk, the diminished structural integrity of the tree will not be a newly-created hazard (I believe that this large pine tree's roots are damaging the sidewalk and will continue to do so after the sidewalk is repaired. I have not heard of any other explanation for sidewalk damage which has been progressing steadily over the years.)
- Removing the tree will reduce roof and gutter debris, improving the roof's drainage.
- Roots will no longer undermine the foundation of the church. (When this tree falls, we will lose one, maybe 2, bathrooms.)
- One outspoken critic of taking out the tree stepped it way back when they came back to church last Sunday and saw the dangerously-leaning, oversized tree, admitting, "it wasn't as I remembered it."

(in conclusion) I like trees and I think we can identify and plant an appropriate tree for this space. I don't believe the existing tree is appropriate.

Discussion:

Rev Alex would like to look at the sloping resurfacing the neighbor on Orange Street has done with their sycamore.

John leans toward removal. Only 20-30% higher price and it's done.

Suzanne would like another talk to a concrete specialist

Ann is leaning toward saving the tree and got clarification on arborist's recommendations and determined whether we want another opinion. Marsha clarified that she trusted her because she did not have a fiscal connection to the removal companies.

Rick wants to look at fire safety.

Rev Alex agreed reinforced that the arborist does not have a fiscal connection to removal and tends to want to save the tree. Agrees that another opinion from an arborist or landscape architect might be warrant in order to preserve the tree.

Hank does not have a strong opinion. Sees both sides.

Looked over the report. Non-native tree species gave Suzanne pause.

Conclusion: We all need to digest the arborist report and potentially find another arborist or landscape architect who can further clarify the potential of a healthy tree and how it impacts the sidewalk ongoing. Tabled until next month.

- Auction update: Story slam, in person, if safe, due to COVID. Moving forward with logistic. "When I was Younger" is the topic. It will be November 6. Determining at their next meeting what the maximum capacity is based on current CA COVID guidelines. Hank recommended that we might have higher price tickets to make money and hold back capacity.

7:00 Capital Campaign

- Roof estimates are approximately \$50,000
- Solar feedback- Ken Evans and Tom Piette were consulted and determined it is not feasible due to low overhead and tree cover. John Bohland agrees based on the current PG& E bills.
- Form a task force: Marsha would like us to consider stewardship members to build a task force with the board. Ann moves Hank seconded unanimously approved Timing of campaign

<https://www.uua.org/finance/fundraising/consulting>

Who is willing to be the point person to that task force- Ann and Marsha will steer. Marsha will talk to stewardship and further look at UUA support (link above and Chalice Lighters)

7:15 Leadership class through Pacific Western Region-follow up via email

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/PacificWesternRegionUUA/LeadingFromTheHeart>

7:20 Confirm meeting for October 20

- Wednesday 10/20/21 @ 6:00 pm
- Opening words by Hank

7:22 Thank you notes. Tom Piette for plumbing and finishing work, Dean and Rich for audio fixes

7:23 Congregational 2 service in person updates

- Suzanne can no longer be responsible for finding volunteers for both audio and video streaming. Alex will get the live stream going.

7:35 Minister monthly report – questions Group thanked Rev Alex for their hard work.

7:40 Committee Liaison requests to BOT

Committee council needs to be calendared

Worship

Rev Alex would like a bell at the side door for congregants for when they are working independently to the office. John, as the representative of Buildings and grounds, will look at the options. Also a sign noting “Church Office.” Rev Alex will talk to Vicky about getting the sign.

Rick noted that they attended Social Justice and there is lots of energy and many things to come. Rise against Hunger this month. And Crop Walk October 24.

7:47 Thinking Ahead

- Youth leader
- Auburn Festival of Lights
- Martin Luther King Celebration

7:47 ACTION item review

Marsha and Ann will start Capital Campaign Task Force

Ann will write thank you notes

Hank will prepare opening words for next meeting

John will follow up on a sensor for the back door

7:47 Right Relations

7:50 Adjourn

Marsha-

- Stewardship/Fundraising
- Committee Council

Ann

- Finance
- Membership

Suzanne-

- Worship
- Denominational Affairs

John

- Building and Grounds
- Adult RE

Rick

- Social Justice

Hank

- Caring Committee
- Children/Youth RE

Maureen-

- Communications

Bike Rack: