



**Sierra Foothill Unitarian Universalist
Board of Trustees
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 7 pm, Zoom

7:05 – Meeting Started - Lighting the chalice

Opening words: Linda Mercurio

Action Item: Mercedes will share opening words during the November BOT Meeting.

Check In

In attendance: Marsha von Dessonneck (President), Suzanne Borth (Vice President), Rev. Alex De Silva Souto (Minister) Mercedes McWilliams (Member at Large), Tom Frye (Member at Large) , Amy Evans (Financial Officer), and Linda Mercurio (Secretary)
Absent: Hank Florence (Member at Large)

Financials–September financials–Gary Koerner

- Gary Koerner reviewed financial reports.
- BOT discussed potential candidates to replace Gary as Treasurer, who would like to step down. The following individuals had already been contacted and declined: Josh White, Ed Koons, Jerry Johnson, Jim Robison, Amy Hansen. The following individuals were identified as potential candidates: Nicole Nelson, Jennifer Warner, and Barb Munn.
- Amy volunteered to help Gary with special tasks until the BOT can find a replacement.

Approval of draft minutes from September 20, 2023 BOT meeting

Amy moved to approve the draft minutes, as written. Mercedes seconded. BOT approved unanimously.

Thank you notes

- Suzanne, Linda, and Marsha will send thank you notes to the SFUU Block Party organizers.
- Rev Alex will provide Suzanne, Linda, and Marsha a list of the event leaders,

Futures and property development task force report–Suzanne –

- Suzanne reported that she has connected with members of the former grounds committee, and she has identified projects needing attention.
- **Suzanne** plans to meet with the member who made a donation to replace lighting in the sanctuary.
- **Marsha** volunteered to join the futures and property development task force.

KP Holland Miller CYRE Resignation.

- Discussed potential reasons that we are not retaining CYRE Directors.
- **Rev Alex** will follow up with KP regarding an exit interview.
- **Linda** will reach out to the former CYRE Director Search Task Force (included Hank, Jennifer Warner, John McCall and Rev Alex) to get this process going again.

Emergency response report/safety task force report– Linda

Linda presented the following priorities identified by the emergency response/safety task force:

1. Replace the main door to CYRE space. The door would have a large window to improve visibility, and a push bar on the inside that allows for easy egress even when the door is locked on the outside. Would also need to install a doorbell.
2. Replace Front Door(s) to Sanctuary –Similar to the CYRE setup, the door(s) would include a push bar on the inside, and large windows, and would also be constructed to be ADA compliant.
3. Exit signage – to ensure that the locations of multiple exits can be identified throughout the building.
4. Install motion activated lighting at all entrances, and along exterior walls-could be solar or hard wired.
5. Trim shrubs around the building to eliminate hiding spots.
6. Install surveillance cameras (either additional Ring cameras or hard wired cameras) BOT discussed and agreed that hard wired cameras are likely the better way to go.
7. Replace back door to CYRE, door to Social Hall, and door up to offices with same safety features described in items #1 above.

Suzanne noted that there is a lot of cross-over between the safety items and the futures/buildings work, and that these teams need to work together. Linda agreed. **The next step is for the Safety Task Force to cost out these options. Linda will report back to the Task Force and move this forward.**

Minister's report

- Rev Alex's shared some takeaways and experiences from their study **leave in Europe**.
- **Rev Alex** plans to compile and edit videos and photos to share with the congregation.

Communications pertaining to BOT decision not to proceed with calling a minister

- Options discussed for relaying this decision to the congregation included via email, during a service, or some combination of the two.
- After discussion, agreed to first share the news with the congregation during the SFUU service on October 29, and allow time for Q&A after the service.
- **Rev Alex** will reach out to **Annie Scott (UUA)** to confirm that she can attend the service.
- Amy prepared a draft email. **Suzanne, Amy and Marsha** will work together to **finalize the email**. The plan is for the email to go out to all SFUU members AFTER the October 29 service.
- Also discussed options for future communications that could include Cottage Meetings or an on-line survey to seek input from the congregation on the future of SFUU. The BOT discussed and agreed overall that the Cottage Meeting approach is preferred.
- **Marsha** will consider next steps and facilitator/hosts required to hold **Cottage Meetings**

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 15th at 7pm via ZOOM

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm