



**Sierra Foothill Unitarian Universalists  
Board of Trustees Meeting - Minutes  
Wednesday, July 26, 2023, 7:00 pm on Zoom**

**Meeting Commenced at 7:03 pm**

**In Attendance: Marsha von Dessonneck (President), Suzanne Borth (Vice President) Mercedes McWilliams (Member at Large), Hank Florence (Member at Large), Tom Frye (Member at Large) , Amy Evans (Financial Officer), and Linda Mercurio (Secretary)**

**Lighting the Chalice**

- Linda shared opening words from “Chalice Lighting for Business Meetings” by Li Kynvi, Sabbatical Minister at First Parish Church of Groton, MA
- Suzanne Borth agreed to provide opening words for the August 2023 BoT Meeting

**Financials**

- SFUU Treasurer, Gary Koerner not available for this meeting.
- Marsha provided an overview of financial reports and outlook.
- Noted the need to address ways to improve FY 23-24 fiscal outlook which currently requires tapping into reserves to cover expenses.
- Marsha stated that Gary is continuing to work on transferring SFUU accounts from Bank of America to Umpqua Bank.

**July 13, 2023 BoT Meeting Minutes**

- Motion made to approve Draft minutes, as amended with minor edits.
- Motion seconded.
- Motion approved by continuing BoT Members: Marsha, Tom, Hank, and Linda, who were all present at the June 13 meeting.
- New BoT Members: Amy, Mercedes, and Suzanne abstained.

**June 4, 2023 - Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes**

- Motion made to approve Draft minutes, as written.

- Motion seconded, and approved unanimously

### Thank You Notes

- Agreed thank yous are due to outgoing BoT Members
- **Hank** to send thank you note to Ann Denison
- **Tom** to send thank you note to Rick Ross
- **Marsha** to send thank you note to John Bohland

### Solar System Installation

- Marsha indicated that the SFUU solar contractor recently removed foliage from the side of the building, per PG&E.
- Solar system installation expected within the next few weeks. Paving of streets in the vicinity of SFUU caused a brief delay.

### Futures Committee

- Marsha provided an overview of the Future Committee's purpose and noted that this Committee is in need of a Chairperson
- Suzanne pointed out that a Committee cannot be formed without a change to the SFUU by-laws and that did not happen for the Futures Committee. However, a task force (short-term) can be put in place by the BoT.
- **Marsha** agreed to reach out to potential members of this Task Force including John Bohland, Ken Evans, Javier Rivera, Bob Niblack and Tom Piette.
- Replacing the front door to meet accessibility and safety code requirements will be a high priority.

### Emergency Response

- Linda provided an update regarding the effort to develop an Emergency Response Plan for SFUU.
- SFUU members, Maureen Bauman and Jennifer Warner agreed to work with Linda on this task. Nat Harris was identified as a potential member of this team.
- **Linda** will reach out to Maureen, Jennifer, and Nat with a goal to meet prior to the next BoT Meeting.

### Audio/Visual/Tech Support Team

- Tom would like BoT to consider compensating Audio/Visual/Tech Support Team members.

- Amy indicated that we have a number of new volunteers in training and that compensation is not warranted at this time to entice helpers.
- General consensus is that the FY24 budget does not have room for this new expense.
- Agreed to table the pay for AV/Tech Support help idea for now.

#### **Additional Volunteer Needs (Former Bike Rack Item)**

- Discussed need to have volunteers in place to clean-up/tidy-up/close the sanctuary after Sunday Service and other functions.
- Noted that without specific volunteers assigned to this job, the task often falls to Rev. Alex or SFUU Administrator, Vicky Jungers.
- Suzanne indicated that we need a bullet list of what “closing” entails.
- Marsha agreed to reach out to the Membership Committee to obtain a post-service/event task list and develop a plan to have this job assigned following each Sunday service and meeting/event.

#### **Music Director - Work Schedule**

- Marsha indicated that SFUU Music Director, Pattiey Leftridge would like to reduce the number of Sundays that she is scheduled to be at SFUU. Rev. Alex and Pattiey plan to discuss potential adjustments to her schedule in the weeks to come.

#### **Planning Ahead - Ministry (Not on Agenda)**

- Marsha pointed out that Rev. Alex has been with SFUU for two years, and their contract was extended one additional year (through June 30, 2024).
- Discussed BoT’s responsibility to work with Rev. Alex to plan ahead and look beyond FY 23-24, so that we have the mechanisms and teams in place to call Rev. Alex or search for a new minister. Either process is involved and time consuming.
- Marsha indicated that Annie Scott from the UUA offered to do a service at SFUU pertaining to ministry. Marsha to discuss this possibility with Rev. Alex.
- If Annie Scott is to speak from the pulpit, Amy will work with Rev. Alex and Committee on Ministry to schedule this.

#### **BoT Member - Committee Liaison Assignments**

- Agreed to assign BoT Liaisons to each SFUU Committee during the August 2023 BoT Meeting

- **All BoT members** will consider their areas of interest and expertise so as to fully support each of the SFUU committees, which include:
  - Stewardship/Fundraising
  - Finance
  - Membership
  - Children/Youth RE
  - Denominational Affairs
  - Buildings and Grounds
  - Adult RE
  - Social Justice
  - Caring Committee
  - Worship
  - Communications

#### **Action Items Review**

- Reviewed the action items **highlighted** above.

#### **Right Relations**

- Conducted a brief check-in to ensure right relations are honored.

**Next BoT Meeting: Wednesday, August 16 at 7:00pm via Zoom**

#### **BoT Retreat:**

**Saturday, September 2 - 10am to 2pm - Amy and Ken Evans Residence**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:31pm**

#### **Bike Rack Items for Future Discussion**

- CoM discussion
- Bylaw revision maybe in the fall, 2023
- Grounds Keeping - Volunteer Need