



## FINAL BOT Meeting Minutes

**21 February 2024 at 7 pm via Zoom**

In attendance: Marsha von Dessonneck (President), Hank Florence (Member at Large), Suzanne Borth (Vice President), Mercedes McWilliam (Member at Large), Amy Evans (Financial Officer), Rev. Alex da Silva Souto (Minister), Tom Frye (Member at Large), Linda Mercurio (Secretary), Jeff Chamberlain (Treasurer),

Meeting commenced at 7:05pm

### Check In

#### Lighting the Chalice

- Suzanne lit a chalice and shared opening words.
- **Hank offered to provide opening words at the March BOT meeting.**

#### Review of January Financial Reports

- Jeff reviewed the January 2024 SFUU Income Statement and Balance Sheet. Jeff noted that overall SFUU is operating in alignment with the 2023-2024 budget. However, Religious Education expenses for the operating year are below what was budgeted due to the Director of Religious Education position being vacant for the last few months.
- The BOT briefly discussed the financial reports, agreed that all appeared in order and thanked Jeff for his work.

#### January 17, 2024 - BOT Meeting Minutes

- Linda acknowledged a request from Rev. Alex to reinstate language that had been deleted between the Draft and Draft-Rev1 versions of the January 17 meeting minutes.
- **Linda will update the minutes per Rev. Alex's request and share a Draft-Rev2 version by 25 February for BOT review and approval.**

#### Thank you notes

- BOT Members agreed to send thank you notes to the following SFUU members for their service and generosity:
  - **Linda: John Armstrong for his initiative and work to improve the audio setup and equipment**
  - **Hank: Meg Dorsey for organizing movie nights**
  - **Tom: Mary Piette for organizing coffee hour**

### **Futures and Property Development Task Force**

- Suzanne is reaching out to those who worked on the Futures Committee and SFUU members with Buildings and Ground expertise to collaborate and synergize. The overarching goal is to prioritize how to best employ limited resources to house our congregation and align with our mission.

### **Director of Religious Education Search**

- Linda reported that the DRE Search Team offered the job to a strong candidate. The Search Team updated the DRE job description in response to questions posed by the candidate, and is awaiting a decision from this candidate.

### **Committee on Ministry**

- Hank shared the plan to have a Committee on Ministry (COM) in place in time to welcome a new minister in July 2024. He is currently working with Maureen Bauman on this effort. The plan is to assemble a COM comprised of engaged SFUU members with skills and background needed to support the SFUU minister.
- Hank will continue his efforts to assemble the COM during the months ahead.

### **Nominating Committee**

- Hank is reaching out to SFUU members to assemble a Nominating Committee that will identify a slate of candidates to serve on the 2024-2025 BOT.
- **Hank will continue his effort to assemble a NOM during the next month.**

### **Non-Violent Communication Workshop**

- BOT discussed tentative plans to hold a workshop on non-violent communication soon.
- Val and John Bowman were identified as resources to support this effort.
- **Marsha will reach out to Val and John to request their involvement and schedule the workshop.**

### **SFUU 101**

- Marsha shared that John and Val Bowman have agreed to offer a 3-session UU 101 for newer and interested SFUU members. John and Val led sessions at their previous UU church.

### **Committee Council Meeting**

- Suzanne shared the plan to hold a Committee Council Meeting on March 17 following the Sunday service.
- The purpose of this meeting is to bring all committees together to build community and plan the next year and beyond at SFUU.
- **Each BOT member will invite members of the Committees for which they serve as a liaison and other potential leaders to this meeting.**

## **SFUU On-Line Survey Results**

- Suzanne shared that responses to the survey showed a clear preference to having a full-time minister (although the largest single set of respondents were in the middle). There also was a (less strong) willingness to increase pledges to make this happen. There was approval to go to part-time if necessary but slightly less willingness to volunteer more to cover the loss.

## **UU General Assembly**

- Marsha noted that SFUU may select up to three delegates to attend the 2024 UU General Assembly that will take place virtually June 20 – 23.
- The cost to attend is \$280.
- So far Joan Lacktis has agreed to attend as a SFUU delegate.
- Marsha will reach out to identify other SFUU members interested in attending the assembly as a delegate via the next weekly e-Beacon.

## **Annual Congregational Meeting**

- BOT confirmed plan to hold a Congregational Meeting on 2 June 2024 following the Sunday service.

## **Minister's Report**

- Rev Alex spoke about Unitarian Universalism and their faith journey to the youth group, some parents, and volunteers of Sierra Grace Fellowship in Auburn. Rev. Alex is also developing a collegial relationship with their ministerial team.
- Rev continues to supply the pulpit once a month at UU Fellowship of Chico.
- Rev coordinated the beginning of the Auburn Passages Volunteers. Their team will be at SFUU on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 11A to 1P unless adjusted by Vicky or Auburn Passages coordinators.
- Rev is participating in the Placer County's Systems of Care (SOC) Cultural Broker Dialogue Series.
- Rev continues to advocate before the Placer Unified High School District and the Auburn Unified School District in partnership with Teachers Union, Hip Hop Congress, and other community leaders.
- Rev has been serving as a committee member of Unity for Equity Endowment, an LGBTQIA+ support and advocacy effort by Placer Community Foundation.
- Rev will be at the Pacific Central District clergy retreat in Santa Cruz from Monday, March 25th to Sunday March 31st. It is a reasonable driving distance if any emergency arises.
- Rev is invited and partially funded to participate in the UUA retreat for BIPOC religious leaders from April 6th to the 15th, in Puerto Rico, and they'll have two local ministers on call to cover any pastoral emergencies that may arise.

## **Report from Liaisons**

- Mercedes provided the following updates from the Social Justice Committee:
- Quite a few people in our congregation are responsive the issue of the unhoused - The Gathering Inn operates the mobile homeless shelter now; perhaps we could make the 3rd recipient of Rise Against Hunger is not going to happen.
- SJC will table selecting the 3rd recipient until our February meeting, once we hear about what's going on with Rise Against Hunger.

- MLK Day Report - Natalie Zapata contacted Carol to ask if SFUU would make a donation towards the cost of the event as we have in the past. After a vote via email (Carol, Barb, Rev Alex and Laurie Soper responded and approved a \$100 donation. No one voted “no”)
- Mission Earth Updated: Tree Planting Event: Saturday, April 13, 2024. This is an intergenerational opportunity for service and community at Nichols Park in Roseville. It is organized by the Roseville Urban Forest Foundation (RUFF) - they provide everything (even pre-digs the holes) - we just have to show up and plant trees.
- Placer Advocates: work to push back against the extremism on our School Boards - Carol is part of this keeping tabs on the PUHSD.
- “Parent Notification” to be discussed in Feb board meeting
- Carol has been keeping tabs on the doings of the PUHSD Board of Trustee meetings.

#### **ACTION ITEMS REVIEW**

- Linda reviewed the action items presented above in red font.

#### **Right Relations**

- BOT members checked-in to confirm that all felt that right relations were upheld during this meeting.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, March 20 at 7pm on Zoom**

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm**

#### **Bike Rack:**

- Bylaw Revision