

**First Unitarian Church of Albuquerque
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
19 August 2014**

Board members present

Ketelle, Alei, Suydam, McLaughlin, Diem, Demi, Mayo, Phillips, Kwait, Kapelianis

Members absent

Flynn, McLaughlin

Ex-officio present (minister)

Robinson

Others in attendance

Bowen (acting recording secretary)
Washburn & Carrillo from Social Justice Council
Renz-Whitmore from Strategic Planning Committee

Call to order

6:35 pm by President Martha Ketelle
Chalice lighting & reading by Kwait

Administrative agenda

- 1) 15 July 2014 Board Meeting Minutes approved, with typos on p. 3 to be amended
- 2) August, 2014 Treasurer's Report (appended) presented by Suydam & discussed
 - a) UU under budget on expected member donations, probably due to summer slow down; fall likely to bring increase; board asked that future reports include projections of probable income
 - b) Pledge drive going apace; general agreement that reminder letter re unfulfilled pledges be sent toward end of September
- 3) Written Core Staff Report by DRE Lindquist submitted
 - a) Update on staff changes and ongoing programs
 - b) As Lindquist is leaving her position in November, board anticipates finding new Director of Religious Education by end of the year
- 4) President's Report by Ketelle
 - a) She's organizing September 12-22, 2014 hospitality events for Josphat, visiting minister from Kenya sister church; still needs volunteers to host and guide
 - b) New website design going well; IT professional and member of First Unitarian is volunteering to assist the web team as a contribution to the church;

Question to be presented

In interests of time, Mayo agreed to postpone until September board meeting

Stewardship Committee

- a) McLaughlin has a meeting time conflict, the Board needs to find a replacement; in meantime, Ketelle & Mayo both offered to attend as needed
- b) The Committee has requested an additional \$1K for the September 21 Stewardship celebration/ice cream social event; Phillips moved to approve, Demi seconded, board passed

Stewardship Campaign

Pledge drive appeal based on what would like to be able to do; five main areas for budgeting:

- a) Mortgage
- b) Cost of living/utilities/infrastructure maintenance
- c) Herrera's promotion & concomitant raise
- d) Social justice programs
- e) Pilot project children's choirs

Social Justice Council Funding Request

- a) Washburn & Carrillo made convincing case for church to provide \$1K in 2015 funding to each of the long term very successful ESL and After School Tutoring programs, with hopes of increase to \$2K per program in following year
- b) Board supportive of request, discussed budgeting process, passed motion that proposed 2015 budget include at least \$2K increase in funding for the Social Justice Council (with caveat that board will have to wait to see whole budget & actual income before allocating specific amounts to any budget item); Kwait moved, Phillips seconded, motion passed with Diem abstaining.

Strategic Planning

In brainstorming session, Renz-Whitmore from Strategic Planning Committee took input from board on what church needs to do to offer more opportunities for members to connect personally and build community

Suggestions included:

- 1) Youth programs & activities to foster more involvement & connection to larger church community
 - Rotating youth rep to board to observe inner working of running church
 - Creation of second teen group

- Defined role for youth in church events in ways they want to be included, such as performances
 - Singular events that are fun, altruistic community projects, etc.
 - Social media site for youth
 - Program in which older kids would serve as mentors to younger ones
 - Asking teens if they need more glue in making & maintaining social bonds amongst themselves
- 2) Extended orientation for new members over course of weeks to introduce them to UU and create cohort that might be basis for extended family group
 - 3) More one-on-one conversations, for both new and established members
 - 4) Sip 'n Sup variations, such as going out to eat together
 - 5) More Covenant groups
 - 6) Outreach/support program for housebound members
 - 7) Online chat group for housebound members
 - 8) More common interest activity groups
 - 9) More daytime groups
 - 10) Music/cultural events to promote diversity
 - 11) Outreach to non-members who have UU outlook, perhaps through community projects
 - 12) UU website instructions on how to become involved at UU
 - 13) Social media groups & discussion blogs for church members

Written Endowment Committee Report submitted

Details committee activities, past and present; in light of need to increase endowment, will now ask committee to project where they'd like to be three years hence

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn Bowen, Acting Recording Secretary