First Unitarian Board Meeting

August 19, 2023 @ 10am - 12pm

Location: Social Hall

AGENDA

Board Members: Rev. Angela Herrera (ex-officio member), Aroop Mangalik, Bill Slakey, Chris Mayo, Dámaris Donado (President), EmmaLia Mariner, Sally New

Guest: Linda SkyeLinda Skye
Absent: Rev. Bob LaVallee (sabbatical), Carla Williams, Maya Stephenson, Joyce Etheridge

CHALICE LIGHTING

- Volunteer for chalice reading.
- Volunteer to light the chalice.

  By Bruce Southworth

  For the gift of this day and for our community of spiritual nurture and compassion, we give thanks. We light this chalice as a symbol of our faith. May our many sparks meet and merge in communion of heart and soul.

  Check-in:

  What is everyone looking forward to this fall?

1. **Approving the Minutes** **July 2023 Board Minutes**
    i. Motion to Approve
        1. Chris MayoChris
    ii. Second:
        1. Sally NewSally
    iii. All in favor:
        1. UnanimousAll
2. **Consent Agenda**
    a. **Staff Reports**
        i. Senior Minister report

1. Congratulations for hiring of Thomas Jarrell
2. Windows broken
    a. Did add second security.
    b. Will adjust next years' budget appropriately.
    c. Windows getting broken with vandalism is not a common occurrence here.
    d. Security cameras– the price of repair for security cameras would be around 7-10k. It only helped with tracking down.
        i. What are the purposes of cameras:
            1. Voice that talks to the people.
            2. Track down for police.
            3. More data about cause.
            4. More data about patterns.
    e. Question: perimeter fence?
        i. This is something that would not have come up ten years ago
        ii. May be necessary to create a safe space. Our campus is not necessarily a safe place for refuge.
    f. Chris is putting together a security team for RE. This could be a springboard for other security efforts.
    g. Damaris notes– There is a city pattern- increase in unhoused populations here, unsafe spaces. Metro area overall.
        i. Note that nationally, UU churches have been targeted. Next year will be volatile.
    h. Grant money? There is federal assistance, but we missed the last deadline. See if there are other opportunities to get grants.
3. New fence
    a. Note about accidents entering/leaving that parking lot.
    b. Will re-evaluate $9600/year we currently pay to have access to that parking area.
    c. Vanguard parking spaces can be used by First U community.

d. Possible opportunities for ride share. Good for community support and inclusion.

4. Rad Gen
    a. Start in Oct 1
    b. Sept 17– Hold my Fear (service)
    c. 75th anniversary for donors & volunteers

ii. Staff Reports
1. “Jumps out at me that we have a really great senior staff.” -Chris
2. “Really looks like things are ramping up.” Noticing how the eBroadsheet is more and more full. -Bill

3. Budget Report (Joyce)

a. Note: security needs; what are they? Do we need to budget more in 2024? Yes; noted in Board materials.
b. See Bryan Hackett’s financial dashboard.

4. 75th Anniversary Task Force

a. Rev. Angela identified an interested task force member (Geri is down to party). Have fun and feel joy together AND/OR give back to the community around us.
b. Put something in the messenger and the broadsheet for interest; also can have a board member pop up and do the invitation. Possibly with Coffee with the Board.
    i. Next coffee with the board is the 3rd; EmmaLia will be there after the 11a service.

5. Standing Committee Updates

Discussion of these updates on the spreadsheet.

1. Board & Grounds Committee and on-going maintenance
    a. Chris discussed the funding (endowment possibly involved) that will need to be assessed. Identify where the funds are coming from, and where we want to designate funds specifically for Board & Grounds.
2. RadGen: any updates?
    a. Chris discussed plans for communication. Profiles on staff. Plan to highlight Laira at the launch of the campaign. Promoting these physically in the Social Hall as well.

3. HCC
    a. Working on an article about healthy communication over email. Any updates?
        i. This has been published. I(EmmaLia) have not seen discussion/feedback.

5. Policy Task Force

a. Task force reviewed the policy (8.05) in light of a request for review in June's board meeting.
b. Draft was submitted. Please review and we will vote on adopting it.
Social Hall Display Policy draft 2023-08-08.docx

- Read out loud.
    - There were five changes made; summarized and enumerated in the document above.
    - Sally does take issue with it. Several concerns about process of selection of artwork.
        - Did not get the information about the last photo removed. This was addressed directly in emails to the artist, and did invite the artist to a meeting, but that meeting was rejected.
        - Bill- there is no better way to guide this process with language about "counters the church's overall mission, strategic direction, or the 8th Principle commitment."
- Motion to Approve;
    - 1: EmmaLia
    - 2: Chris
    - Total vote: 5 in Favor.

6. Change Team

Team members Margi Ahearn, Carla Williams, and Maya Stephenson will meet soon to begin working on the Charge. Unfortunately they've had to reschedule a few times. They will engage in coaching with Julica Hermann de la Fuente as needed.

- Discussion: They would love new members. If there is anyone else who would be interested in being part of the change team?
- There is also an anti-racism initiative group; they have been connected with the change team before.

7. Coffee with the Board

a. Updates? Link for sign-up.
b. Carla did 7/2. Carla was not present for 8/19 meeting.
c. Bill did have interesting conversation– after a service on the 6th.
    i. One was a relatively new member. There was someone else who had been coming for a little bit. There was a conversation about finding connections in the big church.
    ii. New person – not hearing the message that "we really need one another" throughout this church.
d. EmmaLia will be doing the 9/3 coffee with the board. Pair it with gathering interest in 75th group.
e. November is filled, there are following

6. **Recognitions?** "On behalf of the Board…"

    Consider sending thank you cards for the folks below next month due to the volume of thank you cards being sent on behalf of the capital campaign.

a. Benita Terrell- was the RE council chair for several years. They have rebuilt/reenergized the youth group. Bill will write that.
b. Check– Rebecca Gracey. Exiting the food pantry program. EmmaLia will write.

7. Extinguishing Chalice Words

Volunteer to read the words:

We extinguish the chalice here, that it might glow gently in our hearts. May it light your path as you leave this place. May it guide your way until we are together again. *By Martha Munson*