

**Minutes of Meeting of the UUSG Board of Directors--FINAL
Tuesday January 12, 2016**

Bill Scown, President
Debbie Leoni, VP Program Council
Pat Vary, Secretary
Bob Swanson, Treasurer
David Moore, Director
Lindsay Bates, Senior Minister, ex officio
Katie Philips, Congregational Administrator

Absent:

Kathy Cornell, Director
Hal Schulman, VP Admin Council
Cindy Vacek, Director
Lynn Steele, Director
Scott Talbot Lewis, Assistant Minister, ex officio
Jim O'Malley, Assistant Treasurer

Also Present: Steve Zrebiec, Kevin Beyer, and David Tomell

Meeting began at 7pm with 5-minute check-in.

Regular Reports:

For efficiency, all reports were presented as a group (prior meeting minutes, Finance, Councils, Senior Minister, Assistant Minister, Congregational Administrator).

Bob Swanson presented a 6-month detailed financial report. Most expenses and revenues were on track with no surprises.

Debbie Leoni invited comments on the convening of an advisory committee of church members to interact with the Board and Council. Benefits would be to hear more opinions and to begin to identify people with leadership potential. Several other suggestions were made including a leadership workshop/retreat, frequent invitations to church members to attend Board and Council meetings, asking people to be part of a team or committee, to familiarize and intrigue people with the scope and role of the church. The process is meant to grow people and volunteers and to widen everyone's understanding. Rev. Lindsay suggested that the Leadership Support Group create a plan and details for a potential advisory group.

Rev. Lindsay announced that Michelle Gibson has decided to leave her position as Church School Administrator. The LRE Team is dividing up the necessary tasks and ads will be coming out soon for a replacement.

Reports were approved unanimously.

2. Staff Appreciation. Final plans for the Staff Appreciation day on January 31 during the service and social hour were discussed. The Board and Council members will provide goodies.

3. Follies. Steve Zrebiec presented his ideas for the 2nd Annual Summer Follies. Steve wants a list of what we as a church would like to be doing but do not have the funds for, and would appreciate any and all ideas. He has a theme and is working on the fun, singing and dancing script. He will work with Tracy Rosenkrans to coordinate meetings and music

4. Planning Calendar. As we switch from the old calendar to the new one, Debbie Leoni and Bill Scown presented the tasks for the third quarter in the absence of a sick Hal Schulman. They reviewed the 2nd quarter and charged the Board with suggesting goals to begin to define 2017 Congregational Goals and Board Goals. All Board members should submit their ideas for Board Goals by the 23rd of this month of any changes necessary in the current calendar and send to Hal Schulman.

5. Board Retreat. Since we have spent months working on both long-range and short-range goals, it was agreed that there was no need for an immediate Board Retreat as defined in the new calendar. In the next 10 months, we will be able to determine as we implement the goals what needs updating and aim for a January 2017 Retreat. Dave Moore moved and Pat Vary seconded that we skip the 2016 Board Retreat. It passed unanimously.

6. Progress in the Ownership Initiative. The Membership Team has determined that new members are their focus and that membership retention should be part of Stewardship. Kevin Beyer has identified 20 people who will “steward” people. He has asked that those 20 reach out to the 45 who have signed the membership book in the last 2 years, invite them for coffee, or to join a group. He hopes those will ask 20 more, etc. until everyone is a steward.

7. Canvass (Pledge Drive) Planning: Kevin Beyer says that the “Canvass” name has been changed to “Pledge Drive.” The timeline starts in January. Andy Montgomery and Dave Moore are working with Kevin. The theme is “Fair Share.” A brochure is being written and will include the UUA chart on fair giving, suggesting percentages given by “supporters, sustainers, visionaries, and transformers.” Kevin is pushing “Strive for 5%” of member’s income. The Finance Team will review the brochure in February. A “save the date” postcard for the Annual Day of Service will be mailed out by March 2 and the brochure will be mailed by the end of March.

The Pledge Drive will be shorter, from April 2-17. It will be initiated on the Annual Day of Service, April 2. Last year there were over 140 participants and 6 activities: Food Bank, Habitat, bingo for senior citizens, senior citizen gift bags, Mutual Ground, and gift wrapping for needy children. Kevin requested Board members to be a backup for an activities in case an activity leader gets sick.

To help the needed increase in pledges, he is structuring a matching fund. He wants commitments from leadership to increase their giving with the increase going toward a \$15,000 matching fund challenge. He hopes this will encourage meeting the matching fund by new members and older members increasing their pledges to bring in a total new money of \$30,000. (Kevin stressed that the matching fund idea came from his wife Lisa.)

8. Timeline for the Budget. Katie Phillips has put a request out to team leaders. Team leaders must get requests to her by March 1. The Finance Team will then meet. The preliminary budget will be presented at the March Board meeting.

9. Update on the Third Street Property. An interested party has approached UUSG about the property. Meanwhile, the Chamber of Commerce has asked to lease the property for Swedish Days to provide kids a grassy area for games. There was a motion by Debbie Leoni to give Bob Swanson the authority to negotiate with the Chamber and the interested party. It was seconded by Pat Vary and passed unanimously.

10. Film Festival. UUSG has been approached to be one of the venues for films to be shown during the Geneva Film Festival. There was discussion as to the kinds of films, rent, publicity, who would oversee possible food in the Sanctuary, and clean-up. Bill Scown will find a person to negotiate with Fran Yoshioka, the Film Festival representative

11. Branding statement. Dave Moore presented the Board with a one-page branding statement distilled from the consistency of answers on the video that has been made of different members expressing why they attend UUSG. The Board was very enthusiastic. Feedback was invited and will be discussed at the next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting ended at 8:50pm.
Respectfully submitted by Pat Vary, Secretary.