

Splinters from the Board
November 14, 2010

Present: Mary Alsager, Norma Bailey, Vicki Chessin, Joyce Henricks, Alan Jackson, Gisela Moffit, Valerie Stephens, Rev. Dr. Nana' Kratochvil,

1. Treasurer's report (Alan) – Presented a report showing the general budget fiscal year to date expenditures compared to projected. He reported on the Capital Campaign goal of \$51,500 pledges, income and expenditures – The Capital Campaign goal of \$51,500 has raised \$36,080 so far. Alan will send each contributor documentation of their tax deductible contributions for the year in December. Each board member will send a thank you note to their canvassees. The Capital campaign will be highlighted once a month at the worship service to keep the congregation aware of our progress. We have not received a Chalice Lighters grant that could come to \$10,000 to \$12,500.
2. Worship Team report (Nana')
 - a. Feed back has been processed from our first alternate format for Joys and Concerns. A second approach was initiated today that includes one preselected congregant's voice each Sunday in addition to Guy Newland. This person is symbolic of the community.
 - b. The worship team has taken results from the survey of the congregation about the timing of two services and begun to work on plans. They have concluded that 30minutes between the services would be insufficient time for community activities, so an hour will be more likely. When Dawn Daniels and Nana' are planning and delivering two services a Sunday they will need to receive additional compensation. A Youth RE program will be planned for one service and child care for the other. This will entail more cost also.
 - c. Dawn Daniels' first Sunday for professional development will be the end of January.
3. Religious Education Report (Norma)
 - a. The RE Committee proposes hiring Sabrina Brewer to be paid \$25 per Sunday for the first, second and fifth Sundays to provide lesson plans for the 5th through 8th grade students that she will establish with approval by Norma using the "Chicken Soup for Teens" book. The third and fourth Sundays continue to be provided by member volunteers.
 - b. All teachers, volunteer or paid, who work with our students, must have background checks. Norma will do this.
 - c. A letter to permit the children to travel and limit the church's liability was presented as suggested by Nancy White. Some of the wording seemed unclear. The concept was approved and may be implemented as soon as Norma is satisfied with the wording on review with Nancy.
4. Social Action Committee report (Norma)
 - a. Nana' proposed that the Social Action committee may be composed of approximately three members who meet monthly to view the "big picture", setting direction for UUFCM's role in Social Justice. They receive reports from each task force (Welcoming Congregation, 10,000 villages, Senior Visitors, etc.) As we complete the Welcoming Congregation activities in the next year, they should address our next focus, perhaps involving the congregation in "Standing on the Side of Love" or other issues. It was suggested that at least some of the meetings be held on Nana's weekends

here so we could benefit from her experience and awareness of what else is going on in UU social justice areas. She was willing.

- b. Our "Mini Film Festival" was well received by those who attended, but the turn out was disappointing. On Friday 5 attended Milk, Sat. there were 9 at Truth about Jane and 16 at 7:30PM viewed TransAmerica.
 - c. Further efforts of the Welcoming Congregation task force will be discussed with those attending the RE class as it completes. They may be interested in serving on the task force or may help craft a plan for another all congregation retreat, film festival or other ideas to increase the knowledge base of the congregation.
 - d. Dawn may be asked to find a service that addresses the "Right to Marry," a common topic on or about Valentine's Day.
 - e. Dawn and Norma met with Father Wayne of the Episcopal Church. They drafted a letter to go to Wesley Methodist Church, First United Methodist, Quakers, Open Grove Society, Islamic Center and the local Synagogue inviting them to coffee on Wed Dec 8 at the UU Center to discuss common values and concerns.
 - f. Michigan UU Social Justice Network is sponsoring a conference about Standing on the Side of Love. Sat. Nov. 20 now for \$40 per person in Southfield. Dawn, Norma and Mary are going. Others are welcome.
 - g. The board supports the purchase of a Standing on the Side of Love banner and 10 rally signs as well as an assortment of sizes of tee shirts. They can be ordered if not available at the conference.
5. Building Report (Gisela and Mary)
- a. The report from the Oversight Committee: painting the office and library is complete and carpet will be laid in the next few weeks. Painting other smaller spaces continues and volunteers are still needed.
 - b. Gisela and Vicki met with the PHD inspector who informed us that our remodeling project would not come under PHD inspection at all because we are not serving the public. Vicki has submitted a drawing to Colin Herron at Greenwald construction but has not yet heard back from him. The same drawing will be submitted to James Simmons. The initial estimate from a plumber for moving water, sinks and sewer connections came in at \$3700.
 - c. The board authorized the purchase of a Maytag refrigerator and a Bosch dishwasher investigated and recommended by Vicki. Mary will order the dishwasher tomorrow before the sale ends. Installation will need to be discussed and the little, under counter refrigerator can be moved.
 - d. Building use policy discussed. We need to assure the building is left clean and in good repair. The board approved a \$150 deposit from each renter to be returned when the building is determined to have been left in acceptable condition.
 - e. There should be a church member present either as a member of the renting group or provided by the UUFCM to supervise the use of the building during events.
 - f. A new policy regarding the non-UU sale of items for a person or club was discussed. The sale will conclude within a month. The ask must be non-intrusive and approached one on one –not from a display. Items may not be left on the premises without prior board approval.
6. Membership Committee Report (Gisela) –tabled until Dec meeting.
 7. Bylaws Committee Report (Norma) –tabled until Dec meeting.
 8. Harvest Feast – next Sunday. Plans discussed.

9. Communication System – No proposal regarding a new web site design has been received from Kirsten. Tabled until Dec. meeting.

Next meeting will be Sunday, December 12, 2010 at 7 PM at the UU Center

Minutes submitted by Vicki Chessin