

UUCL BOT Minutes – Monthly Meeting on October 22, 2020

Location: Online Zoom Meeting, 7:00 pm

Trustees Present: Carole Campbell, Darcy Pollack, Fred Foster-Clark, Alan Jacobs, Kim Chappell, Brad Weaver, George Herr-Riser, Jonas Kauffman (Treasurer)

Others Present: Reverend Israel Buffardi (Minister)

1. The meeting was called to order by Carole at 7:15 pm with a chalice lighting by Reverend Israel.
2. Update on COCC Position. Reverend Israel reported that he and the Personnel Committee had interviewed four candidates with one more to come. They are hopeful to wrap up in another week or so.
3. Congregational Meeting. A budget report will NOT be given at Sunday's Congregational meeting. Instead, Alan has created a link to the website with the annual budget report. This link will also be publicized in the ACE. Reverend Israel discussed plans for a workshop during the meeting time that would focus on a mission/vision for UUCL. A brief time at the end will be set aside for questions or new business.
4. Treasurer's Report (copy is attached). Jonas explained the actual monthly pledge contributions which have been added to September's financial report. The September figure was inflated because it needed to capture the previous two months for which pledge contributions were not reported. Overall, actual pledges to date are just slightly below last year's figures. **Alan moved and George seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. All voted in favor.**
5. Walters' Trust Committee Report. Fred reported that three grant proposals were approved outright by the Walters' Committee. A proposal made by the Reverend Joan Sabatino from UUJusticePA for website development, newsletter production, and other publicity efforts had a statewide rather than local focus and possible ties to the UUA. As such, Fred felt that the BoT should weigh in on the Committee's approval of this proposal. **After limited discussion, Darcy moved and Kim seconded a motion to confirm the recommendation of the Walters' Committee to approve the grant requested by UUJusticePA. All voted in favor with one abstention.**
6. Committee Appointments. Evelyn Pendleton and Jen Steinbrecher have been nominated to fill seats on the Financial Advisory and Personnel Committees, respectively. **Their appointment was approved unanimously on a motion by Fred, seconded by Darcy.** George questioned whether Evelyn would also serve on the Stewardship Committee. No appointment has been forthcoming from Leaders' Circle for a position on the Leadership Development Committee.
7. Mission/Vision. Reverend Israel, along with Carole and Brad, reported more detail about the process to be used Sunday and then subsequently to work on the development of a new mission and vision statement for UUCL. A Task Force will be charged with wordsmithing what the congregation comes up with. A concern with the inclusiveness of this process was raised. Once consolidated into a short list of items, some sort of polling or surveying of the congregation will be done to assure broad input.
8. **Darcy moved to approve the minutes from Board meeting on September 24 with a second from George. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. New Business.

- a. Reverend Israel identified the need for a Task Force for Submission of Events to determine policies regarding meetings inside and outside the church during the COVID pandemic and to review requests. The composition and process of such a group was discussed. Darcy agreed to take the lead in organizing and would like to get Dr. Andy Probolus involved. A staff member, either Lenore or Reverend Israel, would also be included. This needs to happen quickly as a couple of special outside events are already planned (a physically-distanced Halloween boardwalk, recording session for some choir members) and it appears that Open Table is holding some of its meeting at least partially in person.
- b. Reverend Israel asked that the Board reflect briefly on issues raised during the Board retreat about how boards should function.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm on a motion by George (seconded by Darcy and approved by all).

Respectfully Submitted by Fred Foster-Clark, Secretary

Approved

Attachment 1

October 2020 Treasurer's Report

Hello UUCL BOT,

Attached are the September 2020 financial statements which show a deficit of \$6.9k for the month. This month's Financial Commitments (pledge) receipts were lower than expected for the month of September when we are normally returning in full-force and in-person to Sunday services. Expenses for the month were \$7k less than budget, with personnel costs accounting for nearly all of those savings.

You may notice that I have modified the monthly budget for pledge receipts. We had previously budgeted \$25,000 in pledge receipts for all 12 months (\$300,000 for the year). Based on a review of the prior four years of monthly pledge receipts, I have estimated the percentage of our \$300k budgeted annual pledge total that will be received each month. (I ended up using a 3-year average, adjusted for some large individual pledge amounts.)

The September budgeted pledge amount is very high at \$65k. Not wanting to change the July and August financials which are already in the books, it was necessary to increase the September budget amount to make up for the previous two lower budgeted months.

There is a bit of good news here regarding year-to-date pledge receipts. The new pledge budget would anticipate receipt of 38% of our annual pledged dollars in the first quarter of the church year. Through September, our actual pledge receipts are 37% of the current annual pledged amount. July and August pledge receipts combined to nearly make up for the lower September receipts.

We will see how closely this new pledge budget model corresponds to reality as the months progress!

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonas Kauffman