

UUCL BoT Minutes – February 1, 2022 Postponed January Meeting

Location: Online Zoom Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Trustees Present: Darcy Pollock, Fred Foster-Clark, Carole Campbell, Kim Chappell, Alan Jacobs, Leslie Laird, Brad Weaver; Jonas Kauffman (Treasurer), Rev. Israel

Others present: Kay Welty (COM)

1. Fred called the meeting to order at 7:06. Carole lit the chalice and gave a brief invocation.
2. Minister's Report: Rev. Israel reported on his plans to devote February and possibly some of March to congregational awareness and discussion of *Widening the Circle of Concern*. Several worship services will center on the topics, and he hopes a task force will emerge from congregants' involvement. He is currently attending the UUA Ministers' Institute virtually. He also is focusing on developing plans for reopening the building for worship and meetings. On another topic, he has spoken with a representative from the private school begun at Lancaster Friends Meeting re: their interest in renting UUCL space for instruction. Further discussion between him, Carole Campbell, and school representatives is planned. Rev. Israel announced that he will be taking some vacation time in April, 2022.
3. Treasurer's Report: Jonas reviewed the salient points of the December, 2021, report (attached). The only discussion that took place involved the status and mechanics of Share the Plate giving throughout our remote service period.

Fred moved, and Carole seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

4. The Board next discussed the confidentiality of stewardship information. Given the lack of a charge for the Stewardship Committee, questions arose about who beyond Kelsey Holl and the Stewardship chair should have access to that information. The consensus is that those two should continue to have access, and that questions from members about their past year's pledge can be answered by Kelsey. Fred urged that the Stewardship Committee should develop a charge governing their operation.
5. Questions arising from the previous stewardship topic, particularly about the number of congregants who did not submit a pledge by the end of fiscal year 2020-2021, led into a lengthy discussion about establishing membership categories. The Bylaws state that a financial contribution of at least \$100 be made annually for members to be able to vote and to have access to UUCL-led rite of passage ceremonies without extra charge. A waiver may be made by the minister upon congregant request. The beginning of the discussion concerned how to deal with congregants who have been contacted in several ways but have not submitted a pledge. Darcy would like to find out who among that group may have made a financial contribution nevertheless.

Discussion continued regarding the creation of membership categories. BoT members received survey results from ten fellow member churches in the Central East Region of UUA, reporting their membership policies and categories. Conflicting factors in UUCL's dilemma about signed members' not having contributed are: the fees we have to pay to UUA based on our membership count; the language of the Bylaws; possibly turning away prospective members because of a financial demand; and the unusual and uncertain climate created by COVID restrictions and hardships.

The discussion resulted in three intentions: 1) Fred, Carole, and possibly some Membership Committee members will contact those non-pledgers for their decision whether to remain in membership; 2) to have further deliberation about devising membership categories; and 3) to decide whether the Bylaws need to be changed to reflect the results of that deliberation.

6. Brad gave a brief update on the mural project. The Walters Trust committee awarded a \$10,000 grant to underwrite mural development. Discussion about the possible change of mural position in re: the entry door, as well as potential removal of an ailing tree took place.

7. Darcy reintroduced the topic of reopening the building to in-person services and other uses, such as committee meetings. She and other Board members would like to see the Reopening Task Force fleshed out with a health care professional or someone in close contact with one who can provide current metrics and advice about an appropriate opening date. She also requested that Rev. Israel, as well as Lenore, detail what personnel needs they see as critical for reopening, as well as what programs they envision. Regarding in-person worship services, Rev. Israel responded that we would need volunteers to check entrants for vaccination status and masking, delineation of seating areas, and the technical needs of creating and managing a livestream recording. He also said that we will need to hire an accompanist. Alan suggested starting in-person services in April; Rev. Israel suggested April 17th, which is Easter Sunday.

8. Fred brought up the need for a Board liaison to the Personnel Committee, which is the only committee without one at this time. [Leslie had left the meeting early due to illness, but subsequently after the meeting's close volunteered to be that liaison.]

9. There was only one item in the consent agenda: the approval of the December 22, 2021, BoT minutes.

Fred moved, and Alan seconded, that the 12-22-21 minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

10. At 9:46 **Carole moved, and Alan seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.**

January 2022 Treasurer's Report

Dear UUCL Board of Trustees:

Attached are the December 2021 financial statements. The month provided a net surplus of \$38k, largely as a result of revenues from pledges and "other contributions of record" totaling \$67k. On the expense side, we spent \$5k less than budgeted in December with about \$3.7k of those savings coming from personnel costs.

At the halfway point in our fiscal year, we have a \$63k net surplus which puts us \$8.6k behind budget YTD. Adjusting for the budgeted fall auction proceeds being postponed until spring would put us \$19k ahead of our net total budget at this mid-year point. Our Operating Fund balance stands at \$161.7k.

As of 12/31, we have collected 78% of our pledge commitments, amounting to \$210k. At this time last year, we had received 69%. Total pledge commitments stand at \$285k. Below (and attached as a PDF) is a table showing a pledge comparison between the 2020-21 year and our current fiscal year. Of note are the 21 new pledging units with an average commitment of \$1482. Conversely, 22 pledging units discontinued pledging an average of \$970.

Status Recap

Status	Count	Total Pledge Financial Commitment Jul 1, 2020-Jun 30, 2021	Total Pledge Financial Commitment Jul 1, 2021-Jun 30, 2022	Difference	Change
Both Zero	103	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
No Change	35	86,845.00	86,845.00	0.00	0%
Decrease	13	58,606.00	47,190.04	(11,415.96)	19.48% ↓
Increase	49	101,658.99	119,817.00	18,158.01	17.86% ↑
Started Pledging	21	0.00	31,130.00	31,130.00	100% ↑
Stopped Pledging	22	21,348.92	0.00	(21,348.92)	100% ↓
	243	\$ 268,458.91	\$ 284,982.04	\$ 16,523.13	6.15% ↑

Statistics (excludes 0.00 amounts)

Lowest Amount	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Highest Amount	\$ 35,500.00	\$ 33,500.00
Average Amount	\$ 2,255.96	\$ 2,415.10
Total Donors with Amounts	119	118

Respectfully submitted,
Jonas Kauffman