

**Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 26, 2009**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order & Welcome Guests.** Margaret Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Board members present: Margaret Wilcox, John Abbott, Carrie Cornwell, Fred Schlaepfer, Barbara Hopkins, and Denis Edgren. Board members absent: Linda Klein, Lisa Malkin, and Judy Morrison.

Staff present: David McMorris, Rev. Doug Kraft, and Rev. Roger Jones

Guests: Nancy Lust, Frieda Jackson, Pat Naylor, Patricia Thomas

**Consent agenda:** The January Board meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**ORGANIZATIONAL/RELATIONSHIP MATTERS:**

**Strategy for the use of bequests: matching funds to priorities.** Margaret reviewed the board's prior discussions on prioritizing the use of the bequests. Denis presented his further refinements for possible distribution of bequests based on feedback he received at the January board meeting. Discussion included seeding efforts other than capital campaigns, finding an amount to assign to long range planning, and setting a policy that funds spent on building/grounds major projects would be matched by contributions from the congregation.

**Endowment Trust request.** The Endowment Trust requested that the board direct unrestricted, memorial gifts to the Endowment Trust. John moved and Fred seconded that UUSS allocate unrestricted, memorial gifts of less than \$1,000 to the Endowment Fund. Passed unanimously.

**Website task force update.** John Abbott presented the UUSS Website Committee Charter and Website Policy and Procedure that the Website Task Force recommends. The Website Committee will add guidelines to the Policy and Procedure document. John moved and Barbara seconded to accept the Policy and Procedure Document. Passed unanimously.

**Community garden proposal.** Pat Naylor and Frieda Jackson presented the community garden proposal. Specifically, Pat explained a plan to have a community garden treasurer to collect fees, so that duty would not be on the UUSS office. Pat also outlined the work being done to address water use by a garden. Carrie moved and Barbara seconded that the board endorse the concept of the community garden. Passed unanimously.

**Busy Bees.** Pat Naylor and Nancy Lust presented a plan to create a group, tentatively called the Busy Bees, one objective of which would be to have a job board to list jobs at UUSS that need to be done that custodial staff does not have time to do. A volunteer could sign up to bring his or her own supplies and personnel to complete that job. The second element would be to have a periodic community work day for folks to come to church and under guidance of custodial staff and Property Management Committee perform needed work. This day could include more complex tasks for those with specific skills. This was an information item only for the Board.

**Family Promise request.** Barbara presented a request from Family Promise to waive the \$500 fee, typically discounted by 20% for nonprofits, to rent our auditorium to present a play the proceeds from which support Family Promise's day center. Pat Naylor and Nancy Lust spoke in support and also in particular to our congregation's financial commitment to Family Promise. Denis moved and Barbara seconded that UUSS waive this year's \$400 rental fee for Family Promise to rent the auditorium on April 17. Passed unanimously.

**Theatre One.** Margaret presented a now suspended request from Theater One to make a food or other donation to receive discount off the tickets for its production.

**Building the Future task force update.** Margaret reported that this task force has developed about two-thirds of a revised long-range plan. The task force has three goals identified. Objective 1 of goal 1 involves putting together a specific building and grounds planning task force to develop a set of priority projects using the campus development criteria. This planning group would include representatives from VIA and its Campus Development Committee as well as the board. Barbara Gardner would serve as chair. The entire long range plan will be before the board next month. This would be a trial run for moving forward with the whole long range plan. Barbara moved and John seconded that the motion to establish the Building and Grounds Planning Task Force with Barbara Gardner as the chair to develop planning priorities needed to implement the buildings and grounds portion of the long range plan. Passed unanimously.

**Save-A-Crab Fundraiser.** Barbara reported that we made \$2386.

**General Assembly, Salt Lake City 6/24-28.** Some northern California congregations are talking about shared transportation options.

**Program Council report.** Barbara reported that the Program Council discussed its budget, the community garden proposal, and the plan for a permanent labyrinth at church.

#### **MINISTERIAL MATTERS:**

**Roger** reported that next year the RE program will launch a new religious education model for younger grades called Spirit Play. We will host a training for this model with a

consultant in May, which other churches want to attend. He is exploring with others changes to the junior high program.

**Doug** reported that there may be a request for a labyrinth on UUSS's property. Doug will be leading a spiritually grounded leadership group in the fall. Doug and Roger attended a continuing education retreat on church growth and leadership with other ministers in the PCD chapter of the UU Ministers Association. Doug will be on retreat next week and on sabbatical in April.

#### **OPERATIONAL MATTERS:**

**Treasurer's report.** In Lisa's absence, David added to the written report that Lisa provided. Highlights included that our deficit looks as though it may be smaller than the \$30,000 in the budget, due to strong income, particularly plate income, and expenses are thus far below budget.

**Business Administrator's report.** UUSS has received 331 pledges for 2008-09 for a total of \$426,662. Next year's budget is under development. Sacramento Country Day School has canceled its lease of the UUSS parking lot effective July 1, from which UUSS will lose about \$16,500 revenue next year. We've gotten a new copier, new modem, and new cable to improve connectivity between RE building and UUSS server.

**Recap - parking lot - dates to remember:** Next board meeting is March 26th.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01.

Respectfully submitted, Carrie Cornwell, Secretary, UUSS Board of Trustees