

**Unitarian Universalist Society of Sacramento
Board of Trustees Meeting
June 18, 2009**

MINUTES

Call to Order & Welcome Guests. Margaret Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

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

Staff present: David McMorris and Rev. Doug Kraft

Guests: Ginger Enrico, David Navarro and Alice Lopes

Guest comments: David Navarro and Alice Lopes, board members-elect, attended to observe a meeting.

Consent agenda: The May board meeting minutes were approved unanimously. Judith raised the question about how a congregation designates a minister emeritus. Carrie reported that pursuant to the decision made at the May meeting, the board voted electronically to cast UUSS's eight votes absentee in the election of the UUA presidents as follows: five votes for Peter Morales and three votes for Laurel Hallman.

ORGANIZATIONAL/RELATIONSHIP MATTERS:

Appreciation and celebration for retiring trustees. This is Barbara and Judy's last meeting as board members. We ate treats and gave thanks for their service. Fred was away on vacation.

Building & Grounds Planning Committee update. Ginger Enrico reported that the committee has raised \$9,000 for the entry way project and is ready to undertake removal of the planters and tree, which will take about four days. A discussion of the board's empowering the committee and project manager to manage this project ensued. Because of the success of the fundraising efforts there was no need at this time to dedicate funds to publicizing the effort as was raised at the May meeting by Barbara Gardner.

Consulting minister. Doug reminded the board that Roger is here on a one-year, renewable contract that ends on August 1, 2009. Doug indicated that he undertook a review of Roger's work via an informal survey, the results of which were overwhelmingly positive. Linda moved and John seconded that UUSS renew Roger's consulting minister contract for a year (until August 1, 2010). Passed unanimously.

Guidelines for Recognition of Significant Donors. Linda and John reported back on their efforts to create guidelines for recognizing those who make significant gifts as bequests or otherwise to UUSS. They recommend guidelines recognizing donors in four groups (\$10,000 and above, \$25,000 and above, \$50,000 and above, and \$100,000 and above), beginning with the 2009 church year and retroactively for large bequests or gifts from the past few years. Recognition would come through a wall plaque that is moveable should the church construct a new sanctuary. It could be affixed to a wall of the church possibly with a planting and large rock in which a plaque recognizing those giving \$100,000 would be embedded. John moved and Judith seconded adoption of the four categories of donors and recognition in an enduring way. Passed unanimously.

In addition, Linda and John recommended an annual recognition on a poster in the foyer of those who make a fair share pledge. Linda moved and John seconded that fair share givers be recognized in a visible way in the inside the church for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010. Passed unanimously.

Ministerial intern. Doug reported that Carol Czujko, who lead the Searching for the Future workshop in April 2008 and who is at the end of her first year of seminary at Starr King, would like to be Doug's ministerial intern in 2009-10. Following discussions with Doug and an interview with the Board-appointed Membership Coordinator Task Force, she was hired as an intern minister with a special focus on membership. She will begin on August 1, 2009.

Labyrinth report. Diane Kelly-Abrams shared with the board that there is a movement to construct a permanent labyrinth on UUSS's campus that is approximately 45 feet in diameter. Diane and Marcie Mortensson are working together on this project. They estimate that such a labyrinth would cost about \$4,000, for which \$2,000 has been pledged. They want to work with those involved in the long range planning to ensure the location will work out in the long run and want to plan the remainder of their fundraising effort so as not to conflict with other efforts at UUSS, such as the entryway project.

Program Council report. Barbara did not attend the Program Council this month, because it was going on during this meeting. Diane Kelly-Abrams, therefore, made the report. She reported that the new Program Council members attended, that she and Judy Lane will be co-chairs, and Joan Rubenson will be the secretary. The Program Council will have its retreat in August at which time members will choose liaison assignments.

Retreat details. Margaret provided these and circulated a sign up sheet for foods.

MINISTERIAL MATTERS:

Roger is out of town with the Coming of Age youth in Boston.

Doug reported on the all church camp out last weekend, which was well-attended by newcomers but not old timers, an issue to be addressed next year. Doug leaves for

General Assembly on Monday, after which he will be on vacation and then study leave, so he will not be around much during July or August. (Roger will be here in July.) Doug noted that he believes our pastoral care efforts need some attention in the fall.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS:

Treasurer's report. Lisa reported that income YTD is at 99% of budget and expenses YTD are 94% of budget. Pledge income was 95% of budget for May, and plate collection continues to be well ahead of budget for the year but not for the month of May. USS is currently not running the expected deficit.

Business Administrator's report. Dave reported that our deficit for the current church year is likely to be \$10,000 or less and that we are on track to collect \$417,000 in pledges in the current church year, which is over budget. Membership is approximately 389, but 11 members will become inactive or removed from the rolls on July 1. Prepayment of the 1999 loans has concluded with money coming from bequests to pay off those notes. The 2009-10 pledge drive is reaching a successful conclusion through Dave's cleanup efforts.

Recap - parking lot - dates to remember: Next board meeting is July 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

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