

UUFCO Board Meeting
April 20, 2023
Location: Conference Room, UUFCO

Attending: Laura Voisinet, John McKee, Daelene Schwartz via Zoom, Grace Kennedy, Robert Hedeem and Ella Chatterjee

Guest attendees: Mark Hickman and Susan Kinney

Called to Order: 4:05pm

Minutes written by: Ella Chatterjee, Recording Secretary

Consent Agenda. Grace moved to accept the agenda for the April Board meeting and to approve the March 2023 minutes. Bob seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Board Policy. Mark Hickman reported that he has now brought the Board Policy Book up to date and it has been sent by email to the Board members. He noted that the Board wanted to move to a web-based policy book, as was discussed about a year ago. However, Mark cannot create the web-based book by himself and Leora has had no extra time to do it. He believes that we can only move to this phase when we are able to have skilled people dedicated to it.

Finance. The committee is preparing a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. A detailed explanation should come to the Board next week. *

Stewardship. The Stewardship campaign has raised \$488,000. The committee will have a wrap up session next week and will begin plans for a major donor event.

Personnel. Nothing new to report.

Facilities. Nothing new to report

Endowment. Duke Chadsey and Rob Kinney attended the meeting as proposed nominees to the committee. They were accepted by the committee, pending their election by the membership. The committee voted unanimously to move the endowment funds from Ameritrade to the UU Common Endowment fund, which will charge an annual management fee of 0.97% of the balance. The funds have not been moved yet and the Board had some discussion of whether Board approval might be required. There will be further consultation with Fletcher when he returns.

The subcommittee reviewing the Statement of Purpose recommended revisions greatly reducing the wording. The revised statement was approved by the committee. Ella moved to approve the revised statement with typos corrected. John seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The revised statement with typos corrected reads:

“UUFCO Endowment Committee: Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Endowment is to ensure that the values of UUFCO endure.

In furtherance of that purpose, the Endowment Committee is to:

- Manage and grow the Endowment Fund, and to
- Increase the awareness of the Endowment Fund within the congregation of UUFCO.

Questions or interest in the Endowment Committee or in the Endowment Fund can be sent to endowment@uufco.org.”

Land use policy. Bob submitted a draft of a land use policy, which we have not had in the past. Because staff will have to be involved in some aspects of this policy, it was decided to let Susan Kinney run the policy by the staff for their input. There were also questions about whether the

aesthetic committee ought to have some role in the policy. Bob will get the information from Susan after she consults with staff and make revisions accordingly. Laura noted that this had been a major undertaking by Bob and thanked him for making such a good start on the policy.

Upcoming annual meeting. The annual meeting will be held on May 21, 2023. Nominations for open Board seats and for the Leadership Development Committee (LDC) and the Endowment Committee will be presented by LDC. The Treasurer will make a report and present the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Carolyn Tate will also give a summary of the ministerial review.

Solar update. On April 10, 2023, the final contract from Sunbridge was sent to Board members by email. On that same day, the Board by email unanimously approved the contract. An email was then sent to members and friends about the proposed contract. This Sunday, there will be an informational session, where Anastacia Compton, Laura Voisinet and Bob Hedeem will be available to answer questions. At noon on that day, email ballots asking whether to approve the project will be sent out. Members will have 48 hours to return the ballots.

Because of the large amount of funds to be committed to the solar project, 40% is required for a quorum. The passage of Bylaw 4.06, which allows email balloting, raises a question about how quorum is to be determined. Before email balloting, quorum was determined on the basis of attendance and only those attending received a ballot. The Board found that if email ballots are sent to all members under 4.06, then a quorum must be determined on the basis of returned ballots, and not on the basis of the number of people attending the information session either in person or by Zoom. This method ensures that each ballot is given equal weight.

Sabbatical team report. Susan Kinney said that each member of the Sabbatical team has a staff member they are working with. Among other things, the team works to help the staff set priorities and deal with issues that come up. In that connection, Susan reported that Jonathan has given notice that he will be leaving at the end of June. His job has been posted.

Leora is also taking 5 weeks off starting in July, so efforts will be made to cover her duties while she is absent.

Meeting adjourned: 6:10pm.

The Board went into executive session.

Next meeting: May 18, 2023 4:00pm, conference room at UUFCO

*On April 29, 2023, Fletcher sent an email to Board members with the proposed 2023-24 budget and an explanation of its provisions. On May 1, 2023, the Board members unanimously approved the proposed budget by email vote. On May 5, 2023 the budget proposal was sent to members of the congregation by email and will be voted on after the annual meeting in May 21, 2023.