

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett
12 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Board of Trustees Meeting

August 21, 2019 scheduled 7 to 9 PM

Attendance:

Present: Lorena Griffin, Vice President; Terry Welsher, Secretary; RJ Rice, At-Large; Ally Perras, At-Large; Jezza Hehn, Treasurer; Daniel Bailey (Zoom), At-Large; Rev. Jan Taddeo.

Absent: Marcus Kabel, President; Greg Bandy, Treasurer-Elect.

Quorum present: Yes (6 of 8).

Guests: Don Graff, Jerrold Johnson (left at 8:20PM), Barbara Stahnke (left at 8:20PM).

[Note: Action Items are in red. Items for the July agenda are in blue.]

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Lorena led meeting in Marcus' absence.

Minutes for the July meeting were approved in the meeting and have been uploaded to the BOT Google Drive.

Fall Open House – Now scheduled for Saturday, October 12.

Capital Campaign – Jerrold and Barbara described how the committee planned to operate. Jerrold would be the main point of contact. Report periodically to congregation. He asked if they needed to communicate with La Triesha. Carol Crasson, who has fund raising experience, will be a consultant. Need a name for the project (without sewer in it). Need description of goals for the campaign. What projects will be supported (parking lot). **Rev Jan has a list of items she was to share with Jerrold.** It would be helpful to have more members to the committee. Barbara asked where money would be deposited and what is the horizon for the fundraising process.

Rev Jan had some clarifications and comments: (1) Congregation is in a transition to policy-based governance; (2) The Capital Campaign Committee will be a committee of the BOT; (3) There has been some confusion with Heather of Turning Sun regarding the UUCG financial position. She thought we were “already funded”; (4) Funds would go into a campaign fund and then into sewer fund as needed. The rest would go into a reserve fund. (5) Need to raise about \$42K for sewer and \$25K by end of September; (6) Sewer project must be completed before we can do anything substantial; (7) UUA has resources to assist with capital campaigns (8) Partial list of needs – HVAC, water heaters, gutters, leaks, room renovations, expanded sanctuary; (9) We need some large donations. (Marcus sent out letters to the approximately 15 largest donors)

Barbara said that next steps include needing a plan to start collecting money and a view of what the “next use” of the money will be. Jezza said that food can be a good attention getter and incentive (e.g., pancake breakfast).

.Barbara said we need a focused message. Jerrold asked what the Board wants from the committee – Rev Jan said focus on the raising from the rest of congregation. Jerrold asked about sources outside UUCG. Rev. Jan mentioned that we could sell part of the cell tower land lease. **Jerrold said the committee would need to meet again to digest what they had heard in this meeting. They would get back to the Board in about two weeks.**

Financial – Rev Jan would be meeting with Jezza, Greg and LaTriesha to do a “deep analysis” before the September meeting.

Repairs are needed for the back door. Estimate is about \$425. There was a discussion about whether to use operating funds or reserve. **It was decided by acclamation to take the money from reserves.**

Rev. Jan asked for information on reimbursement information for the recent parking lot repairs.

Bathroom Repairs – Problem was with the urinal in the “Men’s” bathroom. Repairs have been made but wall is still open. Repair cost was \$2250 and is not covered by insurance. Dry wall and tile repair will be about \$625. Don Graff that he might be able to re-write invoice to get more insurance coverage. He offered to make a call to the adjuster. **Lorena will send invoice to Don.** The urinal will not be replaced at this time pending discussion about gender neutral bathrooms.

Gender Neutral Bathrooms – There was considerable discussion about this in the meeting, but no decision or action was taken. There needs to be more discussion involving the whole congregation possibly including at a town hall meeting in September. Topics discussed included Unisex urinals, capacity reduction concerns, state/school requirements and commitment to being a welcoming congregation. **Lorena will (wrote) an article from the board for the Newsletter.** A possible date for the townhall in September 29th.

Debra Greenwood Request – Debra is assisting in the building of a Health Clinic in her ancestral homeland in Africa. Raising money is a major part of the project. She has approached the UUCG Board to be able to raise funds through UUCG's nonprofit number. She is researching the rules and regulations involved in the type of arrangement. She is open to donating 5% of all donated funds to UUCG. Her goal is \$100,000 and would like to have the process in place by the end of the year. There are at least two different ways of doing this – fiscal sponsor and fiscal agency. We would need a contract detailing the arrangement. **The consensus of the Board (with Lorena abstaining) supporting the idea and investigating the best means.** We should consult with Amy Guildroy. There is some background information here:
<http://www.nonprofitlawblog.com/fiscal-sponsorship-the-risks-of-sponsorship/>

Sunday Collection Count – We now have a lock box for keeping the complete count form and the cash and checks. The new count form has made the process much easier.

Sign-ups –

Aug 25

Ally/Daniel

Sept 1	Terry/Lorena
Sept 8	RJ/Ally
Sept 15	Daniel/Barbara
Sept 22	Terry/Ally

NOTE: Secretary (Terry) will send out sign-up info immediately after the BOT meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM

Minutes submitted by Terry Welsher, Secretary 9/17/2019

Approval:

Next Meeting: September 18, 7-9PM. Terry will be out of town. Lorena volunteered to take notes.