

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION
August 6, 2006

Members Attending: Joyce Miller, Denis Edgren, Tina Stidman, Peter Killian, Be Patterson, Chuck O'Neil, Terry Preston, Cherie Chadwick, Dorothy Mitchell, Peggy Middleton, Candy McMorris, David McMorris, Barbara Hopkins, Virginia Dunstan, Steve Hoverman, Arnie Godmintz, David Paul, Al Banker, Anna Andrews. Sondra Mercer

The meeting was called to order by Kate Throop, UUSS president, at 11:40 a.m.

Community Contributions: A form for nomination of Community Contribution recipients for the calendar year January-December 2007 was distributed. Guidelines, including designation of 501C-3 or 501C-4, were discussed; a theme for the year was suggested. Three volunteers (Be Patterson, Arnie Godmintz, and Barbara Hopkins) were appointed as a task force to develop a structure. Kate stated that the board needs to approve the guidelines, but it was stated that a committee, not the board, should handle the process.. The forms will go through Kate to the board, and at the congregational meeting on October 22, 2006 members will vote on a list for next year, with 11 to be chosen (July and August are combined). The Social Responsibility Committee drew up the original guidelines and list, and Religious Services became involved in order to integrate spokespersons for each group into the service; some took too long, despite a five-minute limit, and participation has varied. Since we adopted this concept of splitting the collection each Sunday, the collections have doubled. The task force members will attend the Social Responsibility Committee meeting on Sunday August 13, 2006. The fall-back process will be the form, which probably will be used anyway. The process of Community Contributions was explained in the August *Unigram* and will also be explained in the blue sheet on August 13th.

Voting Process: Chuck O'Neil said rank-choice voting was being used. People could possibly vote on line before the Congregational Meeting, using a free software program. However, this would require a change in the UUSS Constitution; no proxy votes are allowed now except for office holders, and one can probably not opt out of the meeting while voting on line. We would still need a quorum and gathering also. We should ask other members what they think. We could put lists on the web site with links to the web sites of organizations being considered, also in the blue sheet.

Overhanging Tree Limbs in Parking Lot: David McMorris, business manager, cited the tree budget. The first safety hazards are in trees over the rental units, next priority being the parking lot, where low-hanging tree limbs hazardous. There may be emergency measures.

Agenda for September Meeting: This issue of ways to get an issue to a vote in the Congregational Meeting and our relation to the greater Sacramento community.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Submitted by Joyce Miller, notetaker

cc: Sharon Alexander, CFC notebook, UUSS office