

## UUSS Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2015

Board Members Present: Vice President Linda Klein, Treasurer Denis Edgren,  
Secretary Gordon Gerwig, Carl Gardner, Shirley Hines,  
Carol Jacobs, Janet Lopes, Dennis Pottenger

Board Members Absent: President Linda Clear, Skylar Primavera

Staff Absent: Rev. Lucy Bunch

Guests: Dave Thomas, Kathy Styc

1. Welcome
  - a. Dennis did the centering.
2. Denis summarized the Giving Guidelines policy.
3. Consent Agenda
  - a. The August BOT minutes were approved unanimously.
  - b. The Building Use policy was approved. Alcohol issue was mentioned, you may need a license for certain events. Up till now wine was offered with a donation.
  - c. Carl was unanimously approved as a Board Member.

4. Earth Justice--Kathy Styc  
There will be an Interfaith Climate March on Sunday, November 1, 2015 from Old Sacramento to the Capitol. The Green Sanctuary confirms our commitment. OK to carry the UUSS banner since we're a green sanctuary.

A motion was made to reaccredit and reaffirm UUSS as a Green Sanctuary, and the motion was passed unanimously.

5. Roger and Lucy's Conversation with the Board. What they are doing in Walnut Creek, the largest church in the District. They do a 10-minute learning time during the Board meeting on different topics--leadership, the church, UU theology, etc. What topics could the Board think of that someone would present on. Increased volunteerism, social justice, how to connect with youth, lay leadership development, board and community awareness in Sacramento were topics mentioned. Board roles and duties, an org chart also useful.
6. Building report--unused sound equipment was to be donated to SAUCC via Megan, but in reality there isn't much as Tim has plans for most of it. Memorial garden: Annie Kempees is attempting to redo the landscaping, and is under the impression that we no longer

have a memorial garden, because in the landscape plan it's called the "Entry Garden." So she feels we need to disburse the items there, including a large engraved rock with "Adrienne Shell Randall, 1995"--which gives the impression that the entire memorial garden is for her. Board needs to decide whether or not we have a memorial garden, where it is to be and what items can be placed there. Possibly UUSS should have a wish list with dollar amounts specified for things the church needs.

It was moved that we will continue to have a memorial garden, the policy and location to be determined, and the Board will set up a task force to work on the plan. This passed unanimously. Also suggested the issue be discussed in the Newsletter and Blue Sheet to possibly recruit interested persons. Denis will take the issue to the Admin and Property Management Team, and will report to the Board next month.

Possibly move the "Ben Franklin Thinking Bench" from the Memorial Garden to the labyrinth where it will be used more. Or make it part of the Memorial Garden plan.

Building punch list: Quite a number of items. Jackson Construction told John McMillan that all items would be completed by Monday October 5th. There is a document that needs to be sent to the County stating that we have final completion, not including the landscaping. Jackson will only do exterior door stoppers; interior doors would involve a change order. The Building Committee will do fundraising for the garden, because that escaped notice in the budget. It has been requested that the long wall in the Welcome Hall be reserved for art and that nothing be placed in front of it, but it is needed for the Welcome Table. This will be discussed on October 4th.

7. Treasurer's Report. Report posted in the Drop Box, report noted. August was a good month, \$56,000 in income, \$46,000 budgeted. Last two months pledge receipts have been within \$3,000 of projected. Still a \$2,000 deficit in the current budget, \$20,000 taken from previous year's surplus to fund current year. Denis reviewed the various funds we use in PowerChurch to manage church finances.

It was moved to adopt the Board Guidance on Unrestricted Gifts of \$10,000 or more, to use the percentages that were voted on in the August meeting, and to allocate funds that are currently designated as temporarily unrestricted (except for the Betty C'hamj fund), and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Fund Raising Strategy Team (FRST) Report—Timing of Fundraisers
  - a. Stewardship Team, including Roger, Shirley, Cathy George, Eric Ross, and Linda K. One thing FRST would like the Board to decide is the goal for fundraising. Set a five year plan for fundraising and what is the monetary goal for that. Encourage the stewardship team to develop core of people and a strategy to encourage people who are stuck at a particular level of giving to increase their pledges--if they could afford more. Also a designation of people who have committed to

raise their pledges each year for the next three years. No auction this fall, we're going to have an all church dinner on November 14th. It would be a mini-fund raiser, but mainly as a community building event. No David Sobon auction in January, couldn't find anyone to chair it. So that may happen next fall. We will have our spring auction on April 9th. Sobon, former UUSS member, is connected with the Sobon Winery and has many contacts to provide large auction prizes, which UUS has to pay for. There is a budget impact on this development, \$29,000 in anticipated income with Sobon vs. \$21,000 without.

Legacy gifts--to be discussed as part of the "Successful Aging" workshop. Shirley spoke about a booth for Senior High group to give technology tips to older UUSS members.

Lucy will be the chair for the Pledge/Stewardship Drive this year. Ginny Johnson is going to co-chair.

9. Program Council--retreat to be held Oct. 6th. There are five members. They are well into their budget for the kitchen and the garden which were not included in the building budget. Carol summarized the functions of the PC for new Board Member Carl.
10. Membership--the greeters are working off the little glitches on passing the basket in the service. Lucy and Roger have come up with an exciting program for new member orientation, as documented in Lucy's report; briefly, one Sunday a month after church there will be an orientation, another Sunday a month there will be a more in-depth orientation in three or four modules: UU principals history, sources of our tradition, etc. called "Getting to Know UUSS." This is to be before church on the 3rd Sunday. Modules to be offered twice a year. We'll encourage new members to try to attend at least three before they join. Roger and/or Lucy would then meet with prospective members. Every Sunday morning there would be a different spiritual practice: labyrinth walk, meditation, Tai Chi, etc.

The Greeters are unclear about signing up; they have new people that want to sign up. There is a clipboard with three or four names on it with no dates.

11. Ministers' reports-noted.

12. Board Business

- a. Appoint New Member--Carl Gardner approved by unanimous consent.
- b. October 18th Congregational Meeting: we'll vote in Community Partners for 2016, recap the 2015-16 budget, and recap two months into the fiscal year. Denis will not be there, Janet will deliver financial status. Update on building status and funding. Agenda to be determined at Executive Committee meeting.
- c. Next Sunday is Salad Sunday for Board, for 15 people.

- d. Retreat agenda: 5-year plan for stewardship, pledge drive goal, additional fundraising goal. Would like Nominating Committee to write down the various Board position duties. What does the Board want to accomplish for the year? Goal setting. Date is Saturday November 7th, 9-3 p.m. tentatively.
- e. Next Centerer--Janet.

13. Dennis did the closing