

## Jan 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting Minutes

**Present:** Toyon Copeland, Clara Beier, Linda Freeburg, Lynn Wenzel, Don Winebrinner.

**Approved Absence:** Dee Marion

We approved the minutes of the previous meeting by consensus.

**Financial Report:** Lynn reviewed financial reports. We discussed a desire to find better CD rates for our next sweep of funds from our checking account that exceed the recommended balance, and for maturing CD's.

**Pledge Drive:** Lynn is heading up our pledge drive this year. The team includes Cathie Vincent, Diane Saffitz and Lynn. They had a terrific meeting with last year's team including learnings, tips, forms, and timeline. Their first task is coming up with a theme and a target for this year's drive. To determine a target, the board will look at last year's target, this year's budget, our budget vs. actual and a view of any anticipated unusual expenses. Toyon will work with Lynn on a draft pledge letter.

**Minister Search:** Toyon gave us an update on the search team. We want to invite another member of the congregation to join the search team. We decided to ask Patricia Duarte and alternatively, Diane Frank. We have updated our 2026 congregation profile on the UUA platform for ministerial search, and have heard there is another candidate who is interested but has not yet applied. As agreed with all members of the search team, we will decline the only remaining candidate under consideration because they don't offer a model for ministry that would provide a physical presence on the island.

**Pastoral Care:** We are pleased with how things are going with our contract pastoral care minister.

**Outreach:** Linda gave an update on outreach activities. Cheiron is working with Stephanie and Opus on a communications and publicity protocol to streamline publicity work and over duplication of efforts. We are also hoping to identify a person from each committee who will share content and promotion of their events for our social media presence. We'll introduce this concept at the upcoming leadership Council meeting. Linda's working on a display ad for UUCWI in the almanac that Sound publishing publishes once a year. This will be distributed to the ferry system that services the island and to island locations.

**Leadership Council:** Linda will facilitate the meeting on Jan 31<sup>st</sup> since Toyon's out of town then. Agenda items include:

- Small group Progress report from last LC meeting / workshop
- Request for Leadership council support and encouragement in upcoming pledge drive
- Updates from Outreach (Cheiron and Linda)
  - Website change-new calendar/event planning on landing page
  - Request for social media and website content focus person from each committee
  - Streamlining publicity and advertising protocol
- Individual committee reports and any requests for needed help or resources
- Progress on the signage for UUCWI
- Update from the Safety and Security Team

**Membership expansion:** Toyon will ask Frances if she'd like to continue to participate in the MEO team. We need to look at the Roles & Responsibilities for Membership Committee again (it hasn't been updated since 2016.) Clara will send it out to the MEO members to review, as a background for a review of how we are currently organized and how we might organize this work going forward. This could be an opportunity for us to rethink how we structure that committee. Toyon will add this topic to her upcoming conversation with Sarah Millspaugh/UUA.

**Safety and Security:** This team is up and running and making good progress in their work. We don't have a budget for this committee. They have asked for funds for several projects. We approved replacing the landscape path lighting. We also agree on the need for the foliage to be trimmed and we need the safety committee (or grounds) to tell us who they want to work with that is licensed and bonded and the cost for this work. The committee is asking for funding for a particular set of security cameras. Linda will give Don a referral to a consultant the board will pay for, to advise the committee on security cameras that work for our system (and other system strengthening adaptations if advisable.) The board is grateful for and impressed by the work of this committee. The board would like the committee to host a congregation-wide learning session about changes coming and how we can all participate in helping enhance our congregational security.

### **Building Use**

We have several who have asked to use our building for their activities.

The request of a congregant to hold weekly AA meetings at UUCWI “free of charge, but if it is necessary for us to pay a small amount per session or month, we could do so, provided we receive enough in our weekly contributions” was considered. The requesting congregant would serve as the required building host.

By consensus, the Board approved this request, confirming that the only expected payments will be the contributions the attendees are able to pay each month.

The Chair of the Library Committee has asked: “Can any UUCWI member forming a book or other type of discussion group on their own -independent of a Committee’s sponsorship - ...use our church as a meeting place at no cost to them?”

The Board agreed that any book or other type of discussion group should be approved by the Engagement Committee to be part of the Adult Education Program. Any such approved activity would be allowed to use UUCWI as a meeting place.

### **OWL Program Protocol**

It was agreed that Toyan will ask Diane F, Gaye S, and Gene B if they are willing to form an OWL Team to make recommendations to the BOT regarding the OWL program. These will include the schedule of the next series, the age range and minimum number of students to be included, recruitment of students, and publicity of program. They will assure the Board that that all recommendations are in compliance with UUA guidelines/requirements.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 pm.