



Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

- ✓ Bill Scown, President
- ✓ Dan Masini, VP Admin Council
- ✓ John Towell, Secretary
- ✓ Cindy Vacek, Director
- ✓ Jennifer Klein, Director
- ✓ Dick Yingst, Director
- ✓ David de Coriolis, Director
- ✓ Lindsay Bates, Senior Minister, *ex officio*
- ✓ Katie Phillips, Congregational Administrator, *ex officio*

Also present: Walter Pearson

1. Regular Reports

- **Secretary:** Minutes from January Board Meeting amended to include Dan Masini as present; minutes accepted.

• **Finance (Treasurer):** NTA

• **Councils:** Dan noted that Jean Pierce has asked for more help administering next year's Day of Service. Cindy asked whether this event needed to be scaled back since it appeared we were "taxing our people out." Bill thought it was a matter of more people involved in making leadership decisions. Further discussion from Dick, David and Katie supported the thought that although the additional efforts this year was a good thing, it also required a lot more work. Cindy noted that a piece on our Day of Service had appeared in the Tribune and a round of kudos was given to Dave Moore as the media communication has been excellent.

• **Senior Minister:** Lindsay has been sending Doodle announcements to organize Zoom orientation sessions so UUSG'ers can conference when weather is too dangerous for traveling.

• **Congregational Administrator –** NTA



2. Executive Session on Personnel Matters with Walter Pearson, the representative from the Personnel Committee. The minutes from this session are not public.
3. Assistant Minister Search Update
 - Dick informed us that there are currently two applicants that look promising. Telephone interviews will be conducted next week.
4. Membership Engagement
 - Dick reported on the results of a presentation he made to Councils. He was disappointed only four members were present and of those only one spoke. That individual requested that more guidance be provided as to the proper way to approach a non-engaged member before we begin pursuing individuals. Dick suggested a revised approach. He will send a list of all the non-involved members to the team leaders, all team members and the board with some suggested approaches shortly before the next Council meeting and seek volunteers to approach individuals they know to encourage involvement. Dan thought that it was unfortunate that Dick had come on a bad night and suggested it be tried again. Bill offered to make an appearance at the repeat performance.
5. Building Task Force Update
 - Notes from a discussion between the Building Task Force Committee and a consultant were discussed. The Board will move forward and get a more definite answer on the cost of moving Pioneer House., and whether, in fact, it can indeed be moved.

An appropriate engineer will be employed to follow up on these questions. Bill has a plan for presentation to the City of Geneva as it was noted that the City of Geneva will not respond to anything other than a formal plan. This particular consultant was optimistic about the possibilities of moving Pioneer House to the 3rd Street property particularly since that plan moved in a direction towards a commercial entity on 3rd that would generate tax revenue.
6. Annual Report and Annual Meeting
 - Katie distributed a template used in previous year for obtaining information from the various ministries and asked if there would be any changes. Dick asked about changing timing of setting goals before beginning budget discussions for the 2015-2016 year. This particular discussion has come up frequently and remains a difficult one to resolve because of scheduling issues. Bill suggested we get information from the teams and then have the Board review it. Katie noted the templates will



be going out this week and there will be a very tight timeframe for returning the information by April 1. Bill didn't see any need to make changes with the proviso that the team's preliminary goals for next year should support the Board's current goals.

7. Friends of New UUs

- This project has been spearheaded by Cindy who proposed it to the Membership Team last fall. When she brought the topic back up in December there wasn't any enthusiasm or support for the project as many were saying that this approach had been attempted previously. However, a more recent discussion brought a new attitude and nine people in Membership stepped up by saying they would help. Discussion ensued about the need for rotating membership of all the church committees so that the spirit of the committee can be continually renewed. It was also discussed whether a general policy should be adopted which would impose definite lengths of time people can occupy various leadership positions. It was suggested that perhaps a Membership Coordinator could be hired to work with the Membership Team. Dan discussed two approaches that may help: (1) term limits on team leaders and (2) a paid professional for the Membership Coordinator. Jennifer suggested that team leadership may benefit from learning how to engage people who are bringing in new ideas.

8. Pizza Booth Coordinator

- Katie indicated that it was time to respond to the City of Geneva about the intentions of UUSG to continue selling pizzas during the Swedish Days Celebration. Bill said to go ahead and notify them that we will – we will find a way to make the Pizza Booth happen.

Adjournment 10:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

John Towell

Secretary