

UUCM Council Minutes 09.17.2018

17 Sept, 2018 / 7:00 PM / Granite Room

Present

Marti Kennedy, Erna Johnson, John Dowd, Jeff Hoye, Elise DeMichael, Steve Opre, Scott Blanchard, Candy Shirey,
Rev. Carol joined at 8:00

6:45 - 6:55: Time to reconnect and share

6:55 - 7:00: Chalice lighting, reading - Marti - "Choose to Bless the World" by Rebecca Parker, brief check-in

7:00 - 8:00

Search Committee Focus Group - Search Comm. Alan Shirey, Cathy Goldwater, Mark Schwartzberg

Discussed and answered focus group questions.

8:00 - 8:30

Finance/Personnel Committee

5-yr plan presentation - Sandy Frades, Leslie Bennett, Dan Rothman, Alan Shirey

Reviewed presentation to gain understanding of long-term financial investment possibilities re: hiring a new minister in advance of Sept. 30 cong. discussion.

Goal: provide wages and benefits that meet UUA guidelines and will attract a minister to meet our needs. - Note that we are really a "small congregation" - a fact that will save us \$\$ per the UUA guidelines over past/current salaries.

Finance Committee Recommendation:

Adhere to UUA benefits guidelines

Offer somewhere between mid and maximum salary and housing

Plan for modest staff increases annually

Make congregational investments—from the endowment and in terms of time, energy, outreach, mission/vision.

Questions for ourselves/congregation:

Are we willing to invest in a new minister?

Are we willing to invest in compensating employees fairly?

Are we willing to work with our new settled minister to articulate and advance our mission/vision?

Are we willing to increase community outreach?

Are we willing to stick to this plan for 5 years?

Are we willing to invest in the future of UUCM?

8:30-9:00

Consent Agenda: *Approve/accept the consent agenda items or move to discussion agenda.*

June 2018 Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Minister's Report

Schedule Fall Business Mtg. - October 28, 2018 per Exec Council

Nothing moved for discussion, Consent agenda has been accepted!

June minutes "un-drafted" and sent to Comms Team for posting on website.

Reorganization of Council

Discuss new designations and vote to approve:

Moving Marti from Vice President to Acting President, Scott from Clerk to Acting VP, Pick a new Acting Clerk, Steve to remain treasurer.

Elise will sign on as "interim" Acting Clerk as a trial basis for October.

Candy moves to approve new council roles, Steve Seconded, 8 Aye. 0 Nay, 0 abstentions. We have a new "Acting" Council!

President's Weekly email

Discussed usefulness of the idea of sending one update email per week, rather than (potentially) several sporadically - to help keep things from being missed/overlooked. (for Non-Urgent items).

Yes let's do it!

Liaisons

Choose liaison assignments for 2018 -2019

Steve - Finance, Personnel

Scott - Property

Erna - Faith Formation, Partner Church

Elise - Pastoral Care

Candy - Worship

Jeff - Communications

John - Membership

Marti - CDC, Trustees, Transition

Email votes:

August 11th - 13th:

The Property Committee has to replace the outside doors to Barnum Hall. They can no longer be repaired. The estimated cost is \$2000.

Their repair budget is only \$2000 for the year, so they have asked for approval to use money from the Maintenance Reserve, which currently stands at \$11,000, according to our budget document.

A majority of Council members and Finance members needs to vote to approve this expenditure. Please respond YES or NO, in a timely fashion, so the doors can be repaired as soon as possible.

No objections, and we have a clear majority voting yes, we are calling this approved. Marti will notify the Property Committee.

Aug 16-27:

Online bill pay request from Jamie:

I would like to officially request that we (I) sign UUCM up for online bill pay for some of our accounts (Liberty, Eversource, Staples, etc.). This will ensure prompt payment of our bills, and would take some pressure off of the two signatories that we currently have.

The vote to approve online bill paying: 6 yes from Council, 2 abstentions, 1 yes recommendation from Finance, Yes recommendation from Rev. Carol

Sept 21st:

Can Council agree to support the Finance/Personnel Committees' recommendations from the 5-year-plan presentation?

Presentation to be made to congregation at Sept 30 - Compensation Discussion after service Unanimously approved by council.

Oct 6th - Oct 13,

Lynn Coakley has agreed to serve as a Moderator at Congregational Business Meetings this year. She will also be helping to develop an elected Moderator position, and studying parliamentary procedure for us. I will be working closely with her on this project.

She needs to be appointed for each meeting, so we need to vote:

DOES COUNCIL APPOINT LYNN COAKLEY MODERATOR FOR THE OCTOBER 28, 2018 CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING? PLEASE VOTE YES OR NO BY EMAIL BEFORE OCTOBER 12, SO I CAN INCLUDE HER ON THE CALL-TO-MEETING.

Council has unanimously appointed Lynn Coakley Moderator for the upcoming Fall Congregational Meeting.

Adjourn at 9:07

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Blanchard