



UTUUC Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

October 13 2015 - 805 S. Blvd

6:30pm

Attendees:

Board: Larry Kameya, Dan Crimmins, Alison Price, Carrie Bankes, Kathy Clark, Rob Bellmar and Beth Scanlan.

A-Team: Alan Taylor, Emily Gage, Elizabeth Plumber.

Visitors: Jen Marling (Finance and Annual Fund Drive) and Cathy Smilie (Strategic Planning)

Centering – done at 6:32 by Alan Taylor.

Consent Agenda and A-team Report.

- Agenda had updated agenda item for one more candidate for the finance committee.
- R.e. A-Team notes: Emily updated that 2 RE classes switched rooms, but overall things are going well. Registration is a bit lower than it should be, but there are some families that have not yet registered. Overall attendance levels are good.
- Additional question r.e. newcomers and visitors – we are getting maybe 5-6 people each week. Some neighbors, but people are finding us.
- Several households have expressed interest in supporting Syrian refugee families. UTUUC is becoming a sponsor of at least one family through the services of RefugeeOne. It costs \$8,000 per year for the financial support and then significant volunteer support, and these funds have been donated by anonymous donors. There is the possibility of a second family being supported as well.
- Larry motioned to approve consent agenda, including the 3 finance committee members, Rob seconded – voted unanimous.

Strategic Planning Update: (Alan, Rob, Alison and Cathy)

- Update on process, we are making good progress.
- Update on November 7th training schedule: Board meets 9-10, Process overview for Board and facilitators 10:30-12:30, Then just facilitators 1-3.
- Board does not need to be facilitators, but we request that all members participate and sit in on a few sessions.



- March 18th and 19th save the date for the 2nd part of the process – to sort through the data. Friday night board and facilitators – and Saturday Board retreat.
- Sessions will be 2 ½ hours and will be exciting, good questions and creative data.
- Facilitator recruitment – we are looking for candidates now. Needs to be available on 11/7 from 10 to 3 – and available to do 2-3 sessions over the months of December –February. And available on March 18th in the evening.
- Alison will be setting up registration and scheduling for facilitators and board members.
- Youth – do 1 session for them, and R.E. classes would also participate TBD.
- Potential Board members are being told of 2016 Strategic Planning Process, and are being recruited for those needs.

2016 Annual Fund Drive (Jen Marling).

- Reviewed schedule and timeline of announcements and other communications.
- Request for the board to mention Annual Fund Drive when doing announcements.
- Jen will provide us percent and statuses weekly. (At least % of how much for budget we have had).
- Reminders over the next month and ½ via emails, testimonials and other communications.
- Will ask BOT to help with follow up contacts to non-committed members.
- Planning on getting some sound bites of committed members on the Annual Fund drive website.
- Is there a way for us to tell what the \$ amount of what our congregation needs. Request to put some more hard figures. What a %10 increase would be \$ dollars that would give the updates to salary's and the additional resources needed.
- We do run a small administration team, and smaller budget available and they are doing the best that they can. Having more administrative support would be a big help. More demand requires more people.

UTRF board appointment update (Rob)

- Candidates are still being discussed. A potential candidate wants more information on how the board works, so is talking to the members.
- Our representation on the UTRF board helps out BOT have input and information on the preservation process.

Nominations Team – BOT appointments (Alison)

- 3 candidates replacing Beth, Carrie and Steve who are rolling off.
- Candidates are being talked to – need to have names by November 6th so that we have the names published 30 days before the Annual Meeting.
- Dan Crimmins has volunteered to remain president for his last year, so the current vice presidents will only have 1 year as president when Dan rolls off in 2016.



Financial proposal for building improvements: (Dan Crimmins)

- Update on the budget and money available for congregational projects (Accessibility, Security, Lighting, Sound and Kitchen) – the total budget costs are to be \$1 million.
- We have ¼ of that potentially available now – however the total budget is an estimate. So cost cutting on the bids will happen first, and the Building Project could absorb the additional costs.
- Board needs to have proposal put together to 1st – ask finance team to start liquidating funds for us to use. And 2nd - then create a resolution for UTP and BOT to vote on and sign off on.
- Building Maintenance Manual would be created for us for after the project. For our building operation fund needs the end of 2016, 2017 and beyond.

Preservation Task Force Update (Beth)

- Project is going forward and on schedule. Not all of the exterior work will be done this season, so plans being adjusted for how work will be done.
- Retaining wall project (which the apartment owns). Still negotiating the work and the details with the village, the project and the apartment. Plan to have work down around Thanksgiving.
- Exciting things that are happening: Put up cubby holes that will hold up the skylights. All of the plaster has been removed and the ceiling is totally exposed. Classroom walls are gone too.
- The wooden beams and globe lights that were in the lower level classrooms will not be returned because they were not part of the original design. Dan presented the possibility of having a contractor design a potential sellable pieces. We will move forward with researching this idea.

Political Speech at UTUUC

- Incident discussed was event that Alan Taylor attended in Oak Park a few weeks ago. It was the Fight for \$15. Alan did identify himself as UTUUC minister and then mentioned how we voted on a resolution to support the living wage.
- Discussion around how does political events and if our representation at that event by Alan was representative of all of our members, or just as himself. Also how we can help our members who may or may not agree or support ministers actions. But these issues are not black and white, there is more gray areas. Can we be more inclusive to ideas and views not shared by all? Can our strategic planning process help us to define these requests and issues more.

Other Business:

- Thank you to Amanda for her testimonial last week.
- Thank you to Kathy Clark for running Program Council.

Adjourn at 8:57 – Rob motioned, Beth seconded – unanimous vote.