

## Tri-County Unitarian Universalists Board Meeting Minutes

*July 17, 2023*

Members present: Cindy Grossman, Lynne Westmoreland (via Zoom), Gretchen Lewis, Jake Bishop (via Zoom), Joyce Mills, Bruce Twiss (via Zoom), Karen Gammons, and guest, Andrea Coburn.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was certified.

The Chalice Lighting message was read by Karen Gammons and the Board Covenant was read by Bruce Twiss.

Following a personal check-in the June 19<sup>th</sup> board minutes were approved as amended.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Jake Bishop gave the Finance Committee's report. We are 25 % through the fiscal year and have received 50.76 of pledges. We have adequate funds to supplement the expected deficit. The finance team is working to identify the exact deposits made from the the Music Team fundraiser. As previously decided, those monies are deposited into the General Fund, but the Music Team may request funding from the board this year. All requests will be considered on their own merits.
2. Karen gave the Communications Team report indicating that the total hits to our website are down probably due to the summer season. Nancy Garrison is assuming Bill Coburn's responsibilities for the Order of Service. Myra needs time off. Our membership count as of 6-30-23 is 92 members, 9 associate members (**Total 101**) and 20 friends.
3. The membership team reported that we had an average attendance of 66 in June and 65 in July. Helene will continue to do

New to UU. A date should be determined. Marion Oaks has published an excellent article about Tri-UU in their newspaper.

4. Worship and Music should collaborate to have a cohesive service. The Board will consider proposals.
5. Social Justice reported that Tutors for Kids will receive our fifth Sunday donation. Rhonda Casey from that organization will give the Sharing of Abundance.
6. Fun and Friendship reported that we had 22 people attend Game night and 32 attended the wedding shower that the Music Team hosted. August 4<sup>th</sup> will be the next game night. A possible repeat of the Montgomery Bus Trip is being considered with invitations to members of the 1619 study group.
7. Building and Grounds reported that our cleaning company wants a fee of \$175 which is \$60 more than their previous charge. Joyce is trying to negotiate with them to possibly reduce their tasks and thus to reduce their charge.
8. Lifespan Education reports that Nancy Croce and Erin Woodsome will be the co-chairs of this team. Forums need to be scheduled for the fall months and we will continue the potlucks after the forum presentations. Our minister is considering offering programs for adult education. At this point six members of the congregation have shown interest.
9. Stewardship is still in need of a chairperson. Erin will be a resource for the team and transfer historical knowledge.
10. Worship needs to be sure if we have a sermon that is recorded, we have a live person doing the Service Leader job and not a person on Zoom.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. The Program Council has decided that the next meeting will be September 5<sup>th</sup> and that they will meet every two months.
2. The critical leadership gaps will be discussed at our next meeting. (Board members should come with ideas on how to address this.)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. The summary of discussions with Christine Purcell, UUA Transitions Office and Henry Millat of UUCLC regarding prospects for a contract minister in August of 2024 was discussed.
  - a. Many congregations are looking and there are few applicants.
  - b. We need to develop a competitive edge; sharing may or may not help.
  - c. Florida may not be an ideal place for a potential minister to come because of the political climate; however, some may like the challenge.
  - d. Henry thinks there is only a 60 % chance of their continuing with us in a shared ministry. He should have an answer for us by late August. He would like to continue to work on programs, however.
2. Stewardship was discussed. Jake contacted ICON to see what they would charge to do our bookkeeping. The fee would be \$350 per month. Phil Edmonds is retiring from accounts receivable at the end of September. Diana Bishop will assume that responsibility for a short time.

3. A board member needs to be on the nominating committee. Joyce moved that Jake Bishop be that person and Karen seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.
4. Revitalizing our Social Justice approach was discussed with using the SEWAC (Service, Education, Witness, Advocacy and Community ) approach. We need to find someone who has a passion for this issue to lead the team. We could ask Cynthia to focus on these themes. Gretchen will contact Mark Welton to see if he will lead a Great Decisions group at TriUU.
5. The Finance Team is researching using alternative ways of receiving and remitting funds so that we can accept more credit cards. All would be accompanied by a fee. Jake will pursue set up charges for Vanco and they will send us a video of explanation.
6. Fees for forums, guest speakers, musicians, etc. were discussed. Gretchen moved and Joyce seconded that we apply \$5000 to worship services and \$1700 to forums and keep \$1000 in reserve. The motion was passed.
7. We decided to purchase an ad for 1/8 of a page in the Villages Newcomer Guide worship listing for \$450.
8. We decided not to purchase an ad in the Lake Weir High School Winter Sports Program.
9. The Interim Minister Appraisal was discussed and Cindy will fine tune our thoughts and present a draft for approval at the August meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Our next meeting is August 21, 2023 at 1:00 pm at TriUU.

Respectfully submitted,

Gretchen Lewis

Secretary