

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco
Regular Board Meeting
May 17, 2011

Present:

Board Members

Jim Barnett, Treasurer
Linda Enger
Lizzy Gruner, Vice-Moderator
Howard Oringer
Millie Phillips
Stephen Schwichow, Moderator
Judith Stoddard

Guests:

Melinda Ewen, Church Administrator
Jeremiah Kalendae, Beyond Sunday Minister
Laurie Moore, Interim DRE
Karla Jones
Kiam Cua

Excused Absences:

Shirley Gibson
Laura Gilmore, Secretary

Call to Order. Stephen called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Opening words. Linda shared a Garrison Keilor Poem in Honor of Bruce Cowan, a long time church member who recently passed away suddenly.

Members Opportunity to Address the Board.

No members addressed the Board.

Feedback from Board Members.

Stephen shared that he had received a letter from a church member regarding recent personnel changes.

Lizzy shared that the young adult group will be partially sponsoring 5 young adults for the all-church retreat. This will be the largest young adult showing at the retreat in several years.

Jim explained that Kett Zegert of the Library Committee is interested in figuring out what will happen to the books that were moved into the library when Greg first moved in. Melinda explained that the office will be rearranging over the next few weeks, and she will make contact with Kett about her concerns.

Millie explained that while she was previously tasked to call John Rutherford, she now has his contact information, and will continue discussions about emergency planning for UUSF.

Consent Agenda.

1. **Approval of April 12, 2011 Board Budget Meeting minutes.** The April 12, 2011 minutes were accepted with no changes.
2. **Approval of April 19, 2011 Regular Board Meeting minutes.** The April 19, 2011 minutes were accepted with no changes.

Reports.

1. **Greg's Report on our Departure Requests.** Lizzy explained that included in the meeting's board packet is a list of responses to requests the board made several months ago. Linda suggested that this document should be forwarded to Stephen Furrer, our new interim minister, and everyone agreed that that was a good idea. Stephen thanks Greg for putting this list together.
2. **Melinda's Report.** The majority of Melinda's report for this month focused on personnel changes. In addition, the office is currently changing over to a new accounting system July 1st. Due to these two big changes in accounting, we did not have a financial report to study at the meeting. Sylvia will be taking on some new responsibilities and Liz Strand will be temping at the front desk while Jay is in Transylvaina for the next few weeks.

Additional to her written report, Melinda brought up an issue regarding the Bridge Club. The last church member participating in the Bridge Club is now stepping down, and so the office is trying to determine future space rental charges for the group. Certain members of the Bridge Club are contemplating becoming society members so that the Bridge Club can continue in its usual form. However, as the ministers have advised, this does not seem like a legitimate reason for membership to a spiritual community. Board members recommended that Melinda and the office go ahead and charge the Bridge Club the full rate and/or communicate with them about the possibilities of using a smaller room (they currently use MLK).

Melinda also discussed the one page condensed proposed budget sheet the board plans to hand out at next Sunday's Budget Voting Meeting for feedback. Jim discussed some feedback he had received at the town hall meeting earlier this month. Members were concerned with the distinction of SCW as a "Participating Organization" as they felt it was more a part of the church than other groups in that category. Linda clarified that this title "Participating Organization" comes from our bylaws, and there seems to be a misunderstanding that we should make sure to carefully define this category in later documentation. Jim also relayed that members at the town hall wanted a better understanding of the facilities, a breakdown of who is paying to use the space and how much (what percentage of the full fee they pay). The board agreed that these would be important considerations for future budget voting scenarios.

3. **Jeremiah's Report.** Jeremiah brought in a brief summary of the different projects he has worked on in the past month. He further explained that much of his time was focused on the designing of

two sermons: the John Lennon service and filling in for the Celebration Sunday service. Due to his involvement in these two services, Jeremiah commented that his list of other activities was shorter than usual.

4. **Attendance.** Lizzy pointed the group to the attendance page in the packet. Due to feedback, future attendance reports will include only the total number of people in service and the name of the person preaching that Sunday.

Old Business

1. **Annual Budget Drive Update.** Kiam Cua updated the board about the progress of the annual budget drive.
He then proceeded to task out names of people who have yet to pledge for board members to call in the next week. Many of us will be attending a calling party on Monday, May 23rd to call our list of people and any additional names.
Howard asked how we are doing, pledge wise, compared to last year. Kiam responded that we are ahead of last year and that Thad (Smith, former treasurer, currently on the finance committee and helping with the budget drive) thinks we will be able to make our goal. Melinda stated that the list of pledge amounts from the previous year for these names will be in the office for those helping with the drive. On behalf of the board, Stephen thanked Kiam for all of his hard work.
2. **Annual Budget Meeting.**
The annual Budget Voting Meeting will occur this coming Sunday, May 22nd after service. Bob Bacon has agreed to help as a parliamentarian, but would like a copy of our agenda asap. Jim will create an agenda and work with Melinda to finalize the one page budget summary. Lizzy will create member check-in lists from the rolls.

Committee Updates and Reports

Leadership Subcommittee. Lizzy reported on behalf of Laura that Laura had received the Larry Pierce Leadership information from former moderator Jane Park. This will be distributed at a later time, probably in the fall.

1. **Culture of Generosity Subcommittee.** There was no update from the Culture of Generosity Subcommittee.

New Business

1. **Ministerial Transitions Update.** Stephen explained that the majority of the board members were able to meet Rev. Dr. Stephen Furrer Sunday night at a potluck and were all impressed with him.
Jim **moved** to approve the Interim Minister contract between UUSF and Rev. Dr. Stephen Furrer starting August 1st for one year with the option to renew for a second year if later approved and Judith **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with 7 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and the Moderator voting.

2. **Annual Report.** Stephen explained that Tom Walsh is woking on putting together the report. The Moderator’s Report is in and a bit longer than last year (it’s been a long year). While we are looking into switching to a new format for our report, this will not happen this year, as we are already behind. Stephen wanted to emphasize that unlike prior years, full annual reports will not be printed out for the annual meeting. Instead, we will distribute a condensed version, including the Moderator’s Report and all the Minister’s Reports with the agenda for the annual meeting. As Stephen went over the Agenda for the Annual Meeting, Linda pointed out that the board needs to decide on a recipient for the Ann Dillon award. Several names were discussed including some names brought forward by Jeremiah. Linda **moved** that we award Catherine “Caty” Colpetzer the Ann Dillon Award and Judith **seconded** the motion. The motion passed with 6 votes in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, and the Moderator voting.

3. **Hinckley Board.** Linda explained that members of the Hinckley Board are elected in a joint meeting between our board and theirs. Due to Greg leaving and the sudden passing of Bruce Cowan, the Hinckley Board has two vacancies that need to be filled. She requests that board members send her recommendations by mid June of suitable replacements.

The current members of the Hinckley Board are:

Linda Enger
 Shirley Gibson
 Galen Workman
 Bernice Biggs
 Lucy Smith
 Kathleen Queenville
 Don Williams

4. **Small Group Ministry.** Millie explained that the Small Group Ministry is in need of more facilitators. Training is available for anyone interested. Please send names of recommendations to Millie or contact her if you are interested in learning more leadership opportunities within Small Groups Ministry.

5. **New Board Members Candidate Dilemma.** The Nominating Committee has nominated five candidates to run for the five Board seats up for election. Unfortunately, one of the named candidates, Julia Wald, has had to withdraw her name from the running for a position on the Board. Linda suggested that we ask the nominating committee to recommend another person and

at the annual meeting, ask that the bylaws be waived, in the interest of having a full slate so that we can vote for a full board.

Upcoming Events

- May 19th - Starr King's Graduation at UUSF
- May 22nd – Congregational Budget Voting Meeting
- May 28th-30th – All-Church Retreat
- June 5th – Annual Meeting
- June 14th - Board Meeting (Changed from June 21st Due to Board Members attending GA)
- June 19th – Linda Laskowski presenting on GA issues for UUSF Delegates (and anyone else interested)
- June 22nd-26th – General Assembly

Appreciation:

- Kate Kuckro
- Carrie Steele-Salzar
- Kiam Cua

Good and Welfare.

- Bruce Cowan

Tabled But Not Forgotten.

- Bylaw Amendment regarding term length
- Program Council (indefinitely)
- Committee Policies
- Disaster Planning: policy on emergency sheltering at the church
- Investment Committee Chair

Closing. Linda read a poem called “What I learned from my mother”.

Adjournment. Stephen adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lizzy Gruner, Vice-Moderator