

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco
Regular Board Meeting
May 19, 2009

Present

Jane Park, moderator
Matt Fuller, vice moderator
Thad Smith, treasurer
Ben Bear
Carol Johnson
Stephen Schwichow
Don Williams
Bill Wise
Claire Weber, secretary
Greg Stewart, Senior Minister

Absent

Tara Hernandez
Mike McGirr
Sonnie Willis
Nancy Evans, Executive Director
Peter Olandt, Ministerial Intern

Call to order. The meeting was called to order by Jane Park at 7 'clock.

Opening. Don Williams opened the meeting with a reading by Starhawk about community.

Members' Forum.

Members discussed the recent congregational budget meeting. Stephen reported that members are asking why the budget voting meeting is held the same Sunday as Bay to Breakers and suggested it could be changed. Further discussion of this issue is under Board Initiatives, later in the meeting. Carol noted that this is her last board meeting and she had enjoyed the experience.

Agenda review. No changes.

Consent agenda. The minutes of the Board budget meeting on April 28, 2009, and the Board regular meeting on April 21, 2009, were approved with no corrections.

Reports.

Senior minister's report. Greg's printed report was distributed in the board packet. He said that the court ruling on the Prop 8 case is expected this week and there will be organized civil disobedience and arrests if the court upholds Prop 8. He has talked to a couple of possible candidates for the Beyond Sunday position and he thinks we could readily hire a minister for this position.

Executive director's report. Nancy's printed report was distributed in the board packet. Greg reported that the new anti-graffiti paint is effective in greatly reducing the visibility and incidence of graffiti. He also reported that sharing of the Sunday collection has resulted in a larger net collection for us, as well as in available funds to share.

Financial reports. A printed report was distributed in the board packet.

Old business/Updates.

1. California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC). Bill reported on the city meeting held this afternoon to explain the CPMC plan. He said the June 9 meeting about the preliminary environmental impact report will be very important and we need to encourage many members to attend. Comments about neighborhood disruption will be very appropriate at this meeting. This is a "scoping" meeting where we can say, for example, noise is an issue so it should be part of the study, vibration is an issue, and so forth. George Mayer is organizing our response, since time for speaking is limited and we need to clearly present the important points.

Today's meeting began with an hour-long presentation about the scale of the project and building. Then there was public discussion, about half of which focused on the proposed closure of St. Luke's which does not meet seismic standards. The current St. Luke's plan calls for it to be rebuilt as a smaller hospital with limited services. Some at the meeting advocated keeping it at its current size and as a full-service hospital.

The other half of the meeting included comments from our neighborhood that focused on the size of the proposed building and the disruption that the construction will create in Cathedral Hill. There was no discussion of noise, parking, or other neighborhood disruptions. The final plan is not clear, but it seems likely that the project will proceed as it is currently planned. Thad reported that the lawyer who is representing some other interested parties has met with Nancy and himself and some cooperative activity is proceeding.

2. Annual meeting preparation. Jane noted that the four outgoing board members will provide lunch for the annual meeting on June 7. The board also discussed the 2009 Anne Dillon award and determined a worthy recipient.

Board initiatives.

1. Finance Committee/Treasurer/s report. No discussion on this item.

2. Culture of Generosity/Fundraising. No discussion on this item, but the Board is available to make personal calls to help the annual budget drive meet its goal.

3. Budget meeting review. There was general agreement that it was good that the budget passed. Jane raised again the issue of having the meeting the same day as Bay to Breakers. There is a basic calendar problem finding a different Sunday to meet in May because of conflicts. The 3rd Sunday is Bay to Breakers, the 2nd Sunday is Mother's Day, the 4th Sunday is Memorial Day and sometimes the church retreat as well and the 1st

Sunday is too early. Compared to other May Sunday conflicts, perhaps Bay to Breakers is the least significant although we might consider Mother's Day as an alternative. Stephen pointed out that we could have the budget meeting on the 4th Sunday in May next year as Memorial Day falls on the 5th Sunday of 2010. The board agreed that would be a good idea.

4. Leadership/policy governance:

- Committee charges: No update at this time.
- Debrief on Larry Peers Leadership Project. Matt reported that the attendance and participation in the Saturday workshop was good and included lay leaders. Each group leader transcribed the notes from his or her group and provided them to Matt for further review. Jane said the project was a good first step and gave us some concrete ways to move forward next year. Stephen agreed that it engaged people. Ben said the Beyond Sunday coordinator will mesh well with the project results.
- Update on Up On Top MOU. No update at this time.

New business.

1. Request for Minister Emerita status for Kay Jorgensen. Jane provided the board with a copy of a letter she received from three members recommending Minister Emerita status for Kay Jorgensen. The board discussed the recommendation and agreed that Greg first needs to determine whether Kay is interested in becoming an Emerita. The board discussed the recent emerita status of Margot Gross, for whom a church reception will be held in the fall. The board agreed that the two emeritae receptions and recognitions should not be combined as Kay and Margot each provided unique ministries to this congregation and each deserves individual recognition for her contribution. Jane will follow up with the writers of the letter.

2. Letter from Rheiner Committee. Jane distributed a letter from Bob Bacon concerning the Rheiner Award Committee. Jane noted that the board does not generally seek out members for committees, although this is an important committee. Don suggested that recent recipients appear to be willing to step up and help with the committee. Matt suggested making the Rheiner Committee a select committee and limiting its membership to award recipients. There was general discussion of whether to make this a select committee of former award recipients. The board supports the general concept of having award recipients participate in the selection process but is undecided about making the committee a select committee. The board asked Don to discuss this question with Bob and former recipients and let the board know their recommendations.

Upcoming Events and Board Commitments. Events and commitments were printed in the agenda. Jane asked board members to provide suggestions for topics the board retreat, although we will continue to consider the major topics of lay leadership and culture of generosity.

Appreciation. Riley McLaughlin received an award from PCD.

Richard Davis for the thermometer for the annual budget drive.

Good and welfare.

Catherine Savidge is having surgery for a broken wrist and will need some assistance after surgery.

The Caring Community is keeping in touch with the Rutherfords.

Dorothy Satir would appreciate cards .

Closing. Don read from Leslie Steere on daylight savings time.

Adjournment.

Jane adjourned the meeting at 9 p.m.