



**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
6:30pm, March 19, 2024**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Linda Enger, Lucy Smith, Galen Workman, and Liz Strand, Secretary.

**BOARD MEMBERS VIA ZOOM:** Sam King, Vice Moderator, Diane Allen, Megan Lehmer and Lori Lai, Treasurer.

**BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:** Jonah Berquist, Moderator

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rev Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister and Laura Ludwig, Director of Operations.

**GUESTS:** Kathleen Quenneville

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Sam at 6:35pm.

**OPENING WORDS:** Liz read opening words from Lao Tsu.

**PROCESS OBSERVER:** Lori

**CHECK IN:** All trustees checked in.

**FEEDBACK FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND CONGREGATION OPPORTUNITY TO**

**ADDRESS BOARD:** Galen passed along Karen Star's suggestion that we reactivate signage on Starr King at Franklin that tells of our upcoming service and activities.

**AGENDA REVIEW:** No changes were made to the proposed agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Suggested changes and corrections were made to the February minutes and they were approved by consent.

**REPORTS:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Lori referred to her written report, which contained the following summary: One month past the half-year mark of FY24, UUSF is in a strong financial position, revenues (including event revenues) have been over the budgeted amount while expenses have been generally according to plan. The investment markets were generally in positive territory in the first month of 2024. The Annual Canvass is off to a strong start and let's keep up the momentum!

**Director of Operations:** Dir Laura referred to her written report. Matias Salazar, Sexton, and Emma Wakeling, the Membership and Young Adult Manager, have received the needed documents to complete their employment process. Dir Laura also extended her applause and kudos to Susana Bernahola, our Reservations Manager, for her stellar work leading to revenues as of the end of January of \$123,000 toward our goal for the fiscal year of \$150,000. So 82% of our goal for room rentals has already been fulfilled.

Dir Laura extended kudos to the facilities team for their hard work during the Winter Shelter and also to the volunteers who made it happen.

Diane asked about the status of fixes for the previous flooding events. Linda responded that we've made some fixes and they have been successful so far. The City may or may not follow up on the issue with the flooding of the Macondray bathrooms, which was a freak event that may not repeat. That is up to the City to handle. Dan is going to cement-in some cracks in the courtyard. A fix has been done on one side of the Chapel and we may do the same on the other side. The same with fixing the remaining side of the skylight in the roof of the Starr King Room. Plus Scott Miller has installed some sensors so that when there is water intrusion, we are immediately aware of it.

Under Finance, Dir Laura highlighted that as of tonight, which is not yet at the end of week three of the Canvass, we have \$416,000 in pledges, so we are well over half way to our goal of \$750,000.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Montessori House of Children (MHOC) updates:** After an Executive Session, Linda stated the following motion: We empower the negotiating committee along with the guidance provided in the executive session to negotiate a new lease. Lucy seconded. Sam, Linda, Diane, Lori, Lucy, Liz and Megan voted Yea. Galen voted Nay. (Jonah was not at the meeting.)

**Rental Options Committee Thank Yous:** Tabled to next month's meeting.

**Gift Proposal Ideas:** Vanessa thanked people for making suggestions for how to use a proposed large gift to the Society. The overarching way she is thinking of a proposal has a few qualities and levels to it in the following talking points:

- Does the proposal reflect ideas and goals that have bubbled up from our strategic plan—things that are already on the table that we want to do?
- Does it shore up weaknesses or deficits, especially with the needs for the building?
- Does it build and strengthen existing programming?
- Does it build new skills related to the mission of the organization?
- Are we passionate about the vision for the use of the funds? Because the funder will hold us accountable for it. Plus we need to be accountable for what is agreed upon for ourselves.

Preliminary ideas were shared and discussion ensued but it is too early to make decisions at this point. The board made a show of hands unanimously agreeing with the general focus and objectives in Vanessa's talking points.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Budget Draft:** Lori opened the initial review by thanking Dir Laura for her hard work getting the draft together. Lori noted that expenses were 4.47% higher than last year, there is an \$8,000 shortfall in the current draft that has to be made up from somewhere. Linda suggested we use the Steven Gerard quasi-bequest in Trudy Lionel's memory to cover the part of the shortfall, which is related to big music Sunday and other expenses requested for the music program. Discussion ensued and the budget will be brought back at the April meeting to be voted on.

**Setting Annual Meeting:** Liz moved that the Annual Meeting be held on June 2, 2024. Galen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**GA delegates + Article II meeting report out:** Sam suggested we could talk about this on an email string. Vanessa had a conversation with Cal Ball about GA and delegates and Article II. People will brainstorm in an email string between now and our next meeting and it will be on the agenda for the April meeting.

**Good and Welfare:** Fred Rabidoux finished radiation treatments, sympathy card to Scott Miller upon the death of his wife, Barbara Conahan, also thank yous to Gordon Sharafinski and Hannah Clements Hart and also Ben Bear for their work on the Winter Shelter, and Megan Lehmer, after her knee surgery, and thank you to Rev Laura for her work during Vanessa's sabbatical.

**Process Observer:** Lori gave her summary.

**Closing Words:** Liz read closing words by Gerald G. Jampolsky

**Adjournment:** Sam adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.