

UUFM Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Rev. Jonalu Johnstone
Jessica Sievers, Chair
Courtney Albin, Past-Chair
Sandy Nelson, Director of Religious Education

Eli Martinson, Treasurer
Kathleen Oldfather, Member at Large
Lily Colburn, Member at Lar

Gather and Welcome

Opening Words – Rev. Johnstone read from Full Circle, 15 Ways to Grow Lifelong UUs

1) Treasurer’s Report – Eli Martinson with Kathleen Oldfather (See Report)

Income is 91% of budgeted, expenses were 92%. The budget line items are actually getting more accurate.

Update on Pledge Drive: ~\$95,000 from 35 pledging units/45 members vs. budget of \$130,000. Kathleen Oldfather, Chris Bailey, and Mark Mayfield to also assist with contacting remaining members who have yet to pledge.

Propose to just have three signatories for simplicity, and are not adding Jessica Sievers, Chair, at this time.

2) New Business

- a) **Action Item: Approve signatories for accounts being Kathleen Oldfather, Eli Martinson, and Sandy Nelson.**

Courtney Albin moved, Kathleen Oldfather seconded, motion passed by voice vote.

- b) **Action Item: Form a joint committee with Mennonites regarding shared space.**

Eli Martinson moved, Courtney Albin seconded, motion passed by voice vote.

Purpose: To develop a specific charge for gathering information, with an equal number of representation from each congregation. How are the needs of the two congregations complimentary? Anything non-negotiable? Co-ownership? Financial obligations? Process for making a yes/no decision going ahead? Parking? Jessica to look into nominating a committee.

3) Consent Agenda

May Meeting’s Minutes approved as corrected. Eli Martinson moved, Courtney Albin seconded, motion passed by voice vote.

4) Two Services Task Force Update – Mark Clarke (See Report)

Background: The task force first met in March 2017 with a mandate to investigate creating two distinct services under the perception that we would outgrow our facilities and to discuss ideas for managing our limited resources. We realized this growth was not occurring, thus changing the focus to surveying the congregation to identify what a second service might look like that would help us grow.

Observations: About 39 members (one non-member) responded.

72% are >60 years old. 15% are 30-39 years old.

These members had been involved with UUFM >3 years.

Note that respondents are probably those already regularly attending on Sundays.

Q: Of the service formats listed, which would you be most likely to attend?

A: Current format, followed by Social Justice/Service Project were most favored. Mainly a Discussion format, or having more discussion was less popular.

Q: Of the service formats, which do you feel are likely to have the widest appeal to our congregation and the Manhattan community?

A: Current format; followed by Service led by Jonalu but little/no ceremonial items and time to discuss sermon/monthly theme; then Social Justice/Service Project

Q: What service elements are important to you?

A: Sermon- most important, followed by RE Concurrent with service, Performed Music, Joys and Concerns. Hymns- unimportant, Readings, Story for All Ages- of least importance

Recommendations:

1. Do not create two full services at this time
2. Reduce existing service to one hour
3. Focus on outreach to surrounding communities: Manhattan, KSU, JC, Ft. Riley, Wamego- especially students and military
4. Support Rev. Jonalu and ECM minister in developing spiritual exploration class for college students
5. Advertise UUFM via social media: Boost Facebook Posts, Twitter?, Instagram?
6. Mail postcards to selected populations within the community
7. Conduct a periodic, abbreviated service in town, easily accessible to targeted audience. RE provided activity for kids
8. Promote unique events to increase UUFM awareness, ex: Invite a Friend Sunday
9. Revamp web presence: more dynamic, inviting, mobile, theme
10. Share insights with Sunday Service Committee

5) Updates from Chair – Jessica Sievers

- a) Update Board Member Contact Info, invite to UUFM Coffee and Conversation private Facebook group
- b) Juneteenth: UUFM will host a table on Saturday, June 16th 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Manhattan City Park, we would welcome a few more volunteers
- c) Reorganization/Four Facilitators Update with Matt Campbell, Courtney Albin: Raises questions on how re-organizing will affect budget, the line items are still there
- d) Beloved Conversations to hold Sunday Service, tentatively set for July 29, present three Big Ideas for interrelations with people of color

6) Minister's Report – Jonalu Johnstone (See Report)

- a) Questions or comments from Minister's Annual Report sent May 21
Does Sandy Nelson need to make an Annual DRE Report?
- b) Congratulations on 25 years of Ministry!
- c) Facebook Post of Rev. Jonalu arrested at Poor People's Campaign had biggest spike: 1500 views, 624 post clicks, 270 reactions. Other posts with big responses were Charlottesville vigil, Muslim neighbor support, Manhattan Indian Mascot, Purple Power Play, and Juneteenth. Recommend forming a group to promote social media

7) DRE Report – Sandy Nelson (See Report)

OWL: Had great feedback from teen class. We as a congregation support OWL as a ministry, however not on a conscious level outside of those directly involved. The whole congregation supports it financially. This particular OWL class makes Sandy ponder the concept of fees... it's an expensive ministry at all levels.

Discussion: Two thoughts. The youth who thought out their feedback clearly valued the OWL experience. The other youth who did not show as much interest did not value it as much (but probably will over time). This particular class was challenging, and also for the facilitators. Previous conversations among members had been that OWL is something that is unique to UU that we can offer the community. About half of the OWL participants are not associated with UU. Enrollment is based on word of mouth. An idea would be to share the facilitator duty more equally with United Church of Christ. An idea is to only charge outside attendees.

8) Adjournment – 8:29 pm Courtney Albin moved, Eli Martinson seconded

Respectfully submitted by Jessica Sievers, with appreciated assistance by Courtney Albin, standing in for Chris Bailey

Next Meeting/Retreat?

Date: July 10, 2018?

Time?

Location?

Agenda?

Covenant

Treasurer Report 101

Board Goals 2018-2019