

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP of LONGVIEW

Governing Board Meeting

January 10, 2010

MINUTES

Board Members Present: President Jessica Noble, Vice President Marolen Mullinax, Secretary Sky Mitchell, Treasurer Huey Mitchell, Director-at-Large Celeste Fisher, Director-at-Large Chip Koepke; Director-at-Large Amanda Koepke, Director-at-Large Tina Rushing

Also Present: Julie Hart, John Riley, Jeff Fisher, Austin Pennington

Jessica called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM by lighting the candle.
The Board Members read the Board Covenant in unison.

Because of time concerns, Julie asked to address the Board with her issue first. She reported that at the last NTAUUS meeting, the Endowment Committee asked for input from all NTAUUS congregations regarding the companies that could be invested in. Chip and Amanda have been involved in a socially responsible investing program and agreed to do the survey for Julie and give her the results in time for her NTAUUS meeting Saturday.

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes as submitted. Chip made a motion to accept the minutes as presented; Huey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sky presented the piece of shoe molding that she painted. Everyone agreed the color match was great. Chip asked if she had painted the others also. "What others?" asked Sky. Turns out there were many more strips on top of the book shelves. "Oh," said Sky. "I wondered what you were going to do with this one little piece of wood." The painting project will continue.

Celeste addressed the Vision-Mission-Covenant statement process issues. She said that Daniel Polk, NTAUUS Board President, will be here on January 24th as our speaker and has agreed to also do a workshop to help us along with our covenant process. She said she would send an email out to all members and friends, reviewing what has already been done, including links to the online UUA materials, and inviting everyone to attend the workshop. It is important for all members and friends to participate in the process. Both Tina and Celeste said they wanted to use the workshop time to get a rough draft of the congregational behavior covenant written. Jessica said a most important part of the covenant is how to deal with differences of opinions and conflicts. Tina said it will be important for Board Members to model the behaviors described in the covenant. Huey noted that all this would tie into the Grievance Process. Jerry has taken all the photographs and collected all the contact information for the Fellowship Directory but has not yet transferred that information to John. John said he would send Jerry a "thumb" drive and ask him to load it with the information and send it back to him so he can get the directory printed. Huey asked for a date. John said probably a month.

Chip said that he has spoken with Lisa Chatterton about doing a thorough cleaning of the Fellowship and she said she would be able to do it. Chip gave her Celeste's list and Lisa will give us an estimate. Chip expects to see her in the coming week.

There are several items in the R E building that are left from our last garage sale. They need to be cleared out of the building. Marolen said there are a few boxes of books that need to be donated to some organization. Amanda said she could list the furniture items on Craig's List to see if we could sell them. She just needs Celeste to take a picture of them with her phone. There is also free ad space in the Longview News-Journal for these types of items. Amanda said whoever puts the ad in could use her cell phone number and she would meet prospective buyers at the Fellowship when necessary. Chip said there was one chair that we thought we should keep for use in the foyer. No one could remember which one.

Jessica said she has not taken any action on getting a large reflector for the mail box.

Marolen has not taken any action on talking to Tom Stovall about making a sign for the Fellowship. He is scheduled to speak here in April. She will talk to him then. Huey noted that the sign would be a good item to write a grant for.

Huey presented the calendar-year end report on which he noted that in December we had \$568.34 left over after expenses, so we were able to reduce our budget shortfall by that amount. He explained the line item "Social Concerns" under Fees. We collected \$123 from the Guest At Your Table collection and he sent that amount to the UUSC. There being no further questions or items to be discussed, the report was filed for audit.

Marolen gave us the speakers for February: Mike Thompson, Celeste Fisher, Philip Scott, and Megan Dalby-Jones. They have not yet submitted the titles for their talks. Celeste said she could give her title and did so: Spiritual Colonialism. It will be about the pros and cons of missionary work.

Sky proposed that the UUFL have a grievance process in place in order to take care of problems and conflicts that inevitably arise when people socialize and work in groups. Chip said that the police department has found it helpful to have several different ways for people to file a complaint. There was discussion about defining what a valid grievance is and what steps would be taken to handle the problem. Jessica noted that this will require good communication with all members and friends. Celeste said the grievance process goes right along with the covenant process.

Marolen said that Gayle had suggested we advertise on Channel 31. If we decide to do that, Gayle said she would pay for the first two months. Marolen said she would look into how much it would cost and what would need to be done to make an ad.

Huey noted that we need to begin thinking about the composition of the 2010 - 2011 Governing Board. Discussion ensued about rounding up a Nominating Committee. The slate will need to be ready for the Annual Congregational Business Meeting. Celeste said she would also like to have a draft of the mission, vision, and covenant statements ready for that meeting. It was decided to hold the ACBM on Sunday, May 16th.

Sky Mitchell
Secretary