

UUPCC Board Meeting
Friday, October 4, 2013
Minutes

Members Present: Kelly Crocker, Jennifer Emrich, Ann Gary, Bruce Johnson, Beverly Moore, Cathy Perry, Diane Rollert, Gary Smith, Dick Van Duizend, Executive Director
Cathy Cordes

Members Absent: Roger Bertschausen, George Davenport, Eileen Higgins
Also Present: Margot Fleischman

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held by conference call on October 4, 2013. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Van Duizend (M), Moore (S)

Voted: to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2013 meeting.

Chair's Report

Smith called Board member's attention to the list of responsibilities assigned to them, and asked them to review and be prepared to report on any progress at this and future meetings.

Executive Director's Report

Cordes circulated a September/October report. Cordes noted that the recent PCC Chairs Virtual Conference call was extremely successful – the participants, many of them Stewards, talked a lot about the importance of face-to-face meetings and travel. They also asked for a repeat of the call, so Cordes will schedule something for spring. Meanwhile, it is very easy to listen back to the call from our website. The recording of the call should be posted in about a week. Smith commented that the report shows just how much we have accomplished, and congratulated Cordes on her efforts.

Gary noted that our old website still shows up on Google searches – Cordes will make sure the old site gets taken down so that it no longer happens. **Board members are asked to send Cordes a personalized quote (1-2 sentences) to go on the webpage with the Board names and photos.**

Cordes reported that since Higgins was not able to get her Indian visa in time, Cordes and Gary will run the CCB workshop with the Khasi Women's Organization during their visit next week. Cordes has all the materials prepared, and there are already a lot of trained Khasi facilitators. In addition they will train a group of young women to be facilitators. Cordes and Gary also plan to visit the orphans at the AMBCV, do some training on accounting with the AMBCV staff, and meet with the UUNEI's Partner Church Committee.

Cordes reported on the efforts to launch an endowment: Cordes met with Higgins and Suzanne May, who is a professional fundraiser in NY last spring. They were very helpful and quickly moved the conversation towards a much more ambitious endowment goal – about \$1.0 million – which would mean developing legacy gifts. Higgins hopes to launch the endowment campaign during the Winter Board Retreat with a special event for potential donors on Friday. As part of the effort to develop endowment donors, we are drafting interview questions for people who have been involved with UUPCC for a long time; Board members will be asked to reach out to them.

Cordes reminded everyone that GA workshop proposals are due by November 1. Moore has just sent one, and Board members should feel free to submit other ideas to Cordes. We can submit several and will likely be turned down, but it's always worth showing our interest and what we can offer. **Rollert volunteered to write up a proposal for a worship service.**

Travel Report

Ann Gary reported that the Youth Trip Coordinator's guide prepared by Emrich is fabulous! It is both realistic and inspiring and will be very helpful going forward. Cordes noted that Nancy Daugherty is working on formatting, and it will be circulated to the Board. Emrich noted that she will look over the draft one more time and can still make changes, so suggestions from Board members are welcome. Also, input from the Transylvanian side might be helpful.

Travel Grant applications are due October 15 – we have heard from one Transylvanian minister who may be interested in applying to visit his partners this January, but we have not yet received any applications. The Office is preparing to send out a letter to congregations who have traveled with us in the past but not recently. Hopefully this will generate some dialog with those congregations and give them a way to respond.

The travel surveys for the summer season have also gone out, and Gary worked with Beth Norton to customize the survey for the choir trip. The plan is for the Travel Committee to gather the data and share what has been learned at the Winter Board meeting.

Gary is also gathering travel information for the Khasi Hills and will have some content to put on the website after she and Cordes return from India. Van Duizend inquired if we planned an additional Khasi Hills pilgrimage in 2014 beyond the Atlanta trip – Perry noted that there may be some residual interest from the trip that did not go in 2013.

Van Duizend (M), Rollert (S)

Voted: to approve the Travel Program Employee Conduct Agreement

Winter Conference

Fleischman reported on the progress with publicizing the Regional Conference in Bedford on January 18, 2014. We are targeting Partner Church people and congregations within about 250 miles of Boston. We have sent emails to everyone in our database in Mass Bay, Clara Barton, Ballou Channing and Northern New England districts. We are about to send out about 400 pieces of direct mail to individuals and congregations in those same districts, as well as a few specific congregations in St. Lawrence District. In addition to our member congregations, we are inviting ministers from the sixty or so congregations that we are in conversation with about developing an interest in partnership.

The Office is coordinating all the logistics for the event, including home stays for out of town visitors, catering, room reservations, etc., but the content is really dependent on Board participation. The Bethesda event was very successful due to the presence of so many Board members, both giving and attending the workshops. **Board members are encouraged to think about the ways they will participate in the event, and should contact Fleischman about presenting a workshop.**

Like last year, we will have two workshop tracks: Partnership and Travel. People will be free to choose workshops they wish to attend, and will not be limited to one track. We hope to offer some of the same workshops as last time: "Keeping it Fresh/Passing it On" with Gary; "Economic Fairness/Money Matters" with Cordes, Davenport and Van Duizend, and "Social Media." We are also considering adding a RE workshop to help raise awareness of our UUPCC RE Curriculum (newly posted to the website) and are open to any other ideas that Board members might have. For the Travel workshops, John Dale will attend, as will Beth Norton, who has been the choir leader of our Choir Tours; we also plan to give a workshop on Youth Travel.

Presenters should be aware that we plan to videotape the first 10-15 minutes of each workshop, with the aim of developing content to post on our website via YouTube, and should plan their presentations accordingly. This way, more people can benefit from the program beyond those who were able to attend in person.

India Partners

Perry reported that she will be contacting all the North American Khasi Hills partners to introduce herself and organize a Skype call for a networking discussion at the end of October. She is also working on scheduling a Virtual Conference call with the UUNEI leadership, including Derrick Pariat, Nangroi Suting, and Creamlimon Nongbri. She is looking for a date in the first half of November. The October networking call will help generate questions and topics for the Virtual Conference participants. During the rest of November, Perry will continue to do outreach to the partners, especially if they were not able to attend the Skype call. In December, Perry hopes to organize a follow-up call with UUNEI leadership.

Treasurer's Report

Cordes reported that Davenport noted in his report that GA expenses were higher than budgeted this year. Because of the 20th Anniversary celebrations, we had some extra expenses, which should have been charged to the 20th anniversary line item, but which may have been mis-categorized. Other than that, it is not unusual for us to be where we are right now. We have had two months of almost no income – but it happens every year around this time. The Annual Appeal will go out at the end of October, and we will see the income stream pick up after that.

Future meeting dates:

October 4, November 15, Dec. 13

Winter Board Meeting: Jan 15 – 18, 2014 in Bedford MA

Meeting adjourned 12:55PM.

Submitted by Beverly D. Moore, Secretary

Approved by the Board 11/15/13, BDM