

**UUPCC Board Meeting
May 8, 2015
Minutes**

Members Present: Roger Bertschausen, Eric Cherry, Carol Cook, Kelly Crocker, Jennifer Emrich, Ann Gary, Rick Irwin, Melody Moberg, Diane Rollert, Gary Smith, Executive Director Cathy Cordes

Members Absent: Beverly Moore, Eileen Higgins

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held by Zoom video conferencing service on May 8, 2015. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Bertschausen moved, Emrich seconded,
Voted: To approve the minutes of the March 27, 2015 Board meetings

Treasurer's Report

Irwin distributed a written report in advance of the meeting. He noted that Cordes shared a comment that the Philippines Special Project fund (BUILD Philippines) has been drawn down to zero, representing the transfer in April of these funds. We are all glad to have that project done, and look forward to the completion of the building. There are a couple of comments on the including the \$52,000 deficit, due primarily to the Travel program, which has been slow this year with no May trips. There is a line item for new initiatives, but the detail is not being shown for the expenses. Cordes explained that bookkeeper Libby Hanna set up two new categories, an expense category and a revenue category, so that we can track the financial aspects of the new initiatives. She can provide detail on any individual program at any point,.

Executive Director's Report

Cordes explained that the website is back up, but it's the old one. Digital Loom has to reintegrate things. We are doing this because the credit card company requires us to be PCI compliant. We are getting back up as quickly as possible. We have good news from Prague and Paramus! Details about GA are in Cordes' written report. She will see if it's possible to use Zoom to allow remote participation from the board members who will not attend GA.

Dick Ford is extremely touched that we are giving him the Cornish Award. He will be in Portland to receive it. Cordes and Smith will be traveling to Cincinnati next weekend for a fundraiser organized by the Darners. That looks to be a good event, with the possibility of a new partnership.

Bertschausen moved, Irwin seconded,
Voted: To approve the contract between UUPCC and Laurel Amabile for another year.

Start Up/Refresh Weekends

Bertschausen reported that there was a successful pilot in Sarasota in December, and two weekends ago, Cordes and Emrich conducted a "new start" workshop in Savannah while he and Moberg did a "refresh" workshop in Fort Collins. We all feel that these all went really well. We will continue to refine the model, and would like to move forward with making these events a regular offering for UUPCC. We are working on promotional materials and are working on building our

capacity should they prove to be popular. Teams of two work well. Emrich noted that visiting in person provides an opportunity to meet people beyond the PC contact, which is very valuable.

One of the goals of the “refresh” program is to broaden the leadership group and get more people of all ages involved. Cordes noted that in both cases, a follow-up with the leadership would be very helpful, to remind everyone of what was decided in terms of next steps. Getting a partnership moving again after a long period of inertia takes some effort. Following up with the overseas partner (perhaps through a trip) is also important, and unfortunately getting the remote participation of the partner did not work out, but this was okay. A 3-hour leadership meeting and worship services are the non-negotiable pieces of this program.

Youth Initiatives Taskforce

Moberg reported that the US virtual youth group pilot sessions are going smoothly and are well received by the youth. We are still struggling with a US group to partner with Transylvania – we are still planning on an international pilot before GA. We will have materials on both of these available at GA. We are asking the involved youth to help us brand this effort, and we are reaching out to LREDA to see if we can do some outreach through their travels. There are plans for a Youth Pilgrimage to Transylvania, as well as a possible trip from Transylvania to North America. It was suggested that we make direct contact with YRUU/the Youth Caucus during GA.

Chair’s Report

Chair Smith reported that he is working on raising money! He also preached at Mount Vernon in Alexandria, VA recently.

Philippines Update

Cook reported that she received a report from Lee Boeke Burke, which Cordes will forward to the Board. The Philippines Annual Convention was a huge success, with over 110 people registered.

During the Annual Convention, three big things happened: They discussed their First Principle (they have eight), which says “There is God”. In the course of the event, Fred Muir gave a series of fascinating presentations: on Universalism in the Philippines, on Unitarianism in the Philippines, and on UUism in the Philippines. In the course of this, there was a huge response and discussion among the participants, and he brought up the idea of “God is Love” as the First Principle.

Second, they worked on structural changes of the UUCP organization, given that Rev. Rebecca Sienes plans to retire next year. They came up with a structure with two co-equal positions.

President and Executive Minister Armand Pedro was one of the many young people who were there and gave the keynote on “A Call to Responsibility.” He plans to attend the Meadville Lombard program, and is looked upon as the future President of the UUCP.

Burke led a program on the partner churches with a focus on communication. It was obvious that many of the partnerships were struggling in the absence of formal support from the UUCP. They decided to fund a full-time Faith in Action position to address this.

The Dormitory Project dedication happened during the meeting, even though there is a lot of work left to be done. Rebecca cut the ribbon, Tet Gaillard read a poem, and Fred Muir offered a prayer. It was very festive.

Cordes noted that this was the second successful partners trip to the Philippines this year, which is big! Next year's pilgrimage will be February, 2016.

Travel

Gary reported that we awarded \$2,500 in travel grants to five applicants. It was a good mix with mostly Transylvania but also a trip to the UK and travel both to and from the US.

There will be an ad in the GA booklet, which will target existing partners to encourage them to go on a trip. It might be worth working with Fort Collins on building a suitable itinerary, with some new approaches for getting congregations to travel again.

Cordes added that we have been working on a "badge" – something you collect on your cell phone – for the GA program. It is kind of a scavenger hunt and is designed to be attractive and cute for younger people. Nancy Daugherty created a badge based on the hiking trip, so the badge shows a Transylvanian mountain with the word "hike" – it is very cool! The idea is to drive people to our booth who might not normally stop by.

UUA Update

Cherry reported that he had also heard about the success in Philippines. In India, there will be a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Hajom Kissor Singh. At GA, the Church of the Larger Fellowship will be launching a Latino minister program that has international pieces to it.

We are receiving daily updates about Burundi, and the church is right in the middle of the conflict area. The ICUU will be handling the appeal to collect money for relocation needs, and the Burundi Unitarians have also requested our spiritual support. Social media is an unreliable communication tool; email is more reliable but still not great. Messages of support can be sent to ICUU, which will find a way to get them through.

Transition Report

Gary reported that she had a great lunch meeting with Ron Cordes to talk about the database and the technical requirements for the UUPCC. She also spoke with Cathy Cordes to let her know that there will be a visioning session next week with the idea that we can take the vision of our future leadership into practical next steps.

GA Planning

Cordes reminded Board members to leave time in their schedules to work at the booth. It's going to be a great opportunity! Bertschausen suggested that a schedule be created, and will send his availability.

Next meetings: June 3 at 12:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 12: 50 pm

Approved by the Board, June 3, 2015/bdm