

**UUPCC Board Meeting  
Minutes  
February 27, 2015**

**Members Present:** Roger Bertschausen, Eric Cherry, Kelly Crocker, Jennifer Emrich, Ann Gary, Rick Irwin, Beverly Moore, Melody Moberg, Gary Smith, Executive Director  
Cathy Cordes

**Members Absent:** Carol Cook, Diane Rollert

**Also Present:** Sarah Ascher

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held by Zoom video conferencing service on February 27, 2015. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm, EDT.

**Treasurer's Report**

Irwin reported that there are not any significant issues to address with January's financial reports. Cordes noted that there was a very large level of expenditure this month, but it represents money at long last being sent to the Philippines for the BUILD program, as well as the transfers for the India and the Philippines trips. These are all good things, but they make the financial report look quite unusual.

**Executive Director's Report**

Cordes reported that the India trip is about to leave. This is the first time that we have had a full trip with India partners. For the first time ever, there will be village home stays. This is a big step. Two people from Bedford will visit their partner school. The Philippines trip has been outstanding. Rollert has done a fantastic job.

Cordes noted that she has cancelled the conference calling service, which will save us over \$2000. We will be replacing this with 8 Pro Accounts for Zoom, only five of which we had to pay for. This will be a substantial improvement and a substantial savings.

**Chair's Report**

Chair Smith reported that there is going to be a house party for UUPCC in Concord on March 13. We have been invited to St. John's in Cincinnati by the Darners in May. Also, Smith will preach twice in the upcoming months for the UUPCC.

**Cornish Award Report**

Bertschausen reported that the Cornish committee was composed of himself, Higgins, and former UUPCC Board members Scott Prinster and George Davenport. The nominees were exceptional, and it was a very difficult choice. However, it is with great pleasure to announce that the committee has nominated Richard Ford for this award.

**Bertschausen (M), Higgins (S)**

**Voted: to award the 2015 Cornish Award to Richard Ford.**

Bertschausen or Higgins will contact Dick Ford and also find out if he might be able to attend GA. Bertschausen would also like to encourage the people who made nominations to do so again next year. He volunteered to contact all the nominators at the appropriate moment. Both Bertschausen and Higgins would be delighted to work on Dick Ford's award citation.

**[Moore joined the call at this point]**

### **Start-up Programs**

Bertschausen reported Cordes and Emrich will be going to Savannah for a Start-Up weekend, and the same weekend Higgins, Moberg and Bertschausen will go to Fort Collins for more of a “refresher” program for their existing partnership. These will both take place during the last weekend in April.

Cordes reported that Emrich has been in communication with one of the lay leaders and the minister in Savannah. The minister is talking about doing a pulpit exchange; that sounds really exciting.

**Transitions Report [Note to Brd: Is Cathy’s retirement now public or do we need to take this topic out of the minutes?]**

Gary reported that the Transition Group is still forming. Gary hopes to meet in early March with Cordes to help set out expectations. The Board members not on this committee will be interviewed about their ideas about what is important in the next Executive Director.

### **Travel**

Gary reported that the Travel subgroup with Higgins, Emrich, Gary and Barbara Threet has decided to focus on repeat congregations as a way to develop new trips for the Travel program. They are also developing a new ad, and Gary is working with Nancy Daugherty to give it a more “people focused” look. An in-person meeting with John Dale and Csilla Kolcsar is planned in May. The group also decided to focus on developing one special interest trip for 2016, theme to be determined.

### **International Office Update**

Cherry reported that there are some new opportunities to engage with Cuba. There is going to be a conference call with some members of the First Unitarian Church in Cincinnati who have been in contact with some interested parties in Cuba. Higgins noted that this would be an opportunity to get one of the South Florida congregations involved in partnership. Cherry cautioned that partnership is probably a long way off, but as US government policy changes, we want to be open to new opportunities, as well. The Atlanta congregation has reached out to Cordes to express interest in taking a choir trip to Cuba. They would probably do well to contact the Portland, OR church. Cherry volunteered to talk with the Atlanta church.

### **Youth Initiatives**

Sarah Ascher reported that her congregation in Wellesley and Moberg’s congregation at Seattle University Unitarian will be holding the first-ever Virtual Youth Group meeting via Zoom. This will be our first try at this and there will be more to report afterward. We are pairing Emrich’s congregation in Yarmouth, ME with the Westside Congregation in Seattle, and Crocker’s congregation in Madison, WI with East Shore in Bellevue, WA, thinking that the youth group sizes and cultures of the congregations will be compatible. Ascher added that there might be some synergies with ICUU about youth camps. Ascher had a brief, preliminary conversation with Jill MacAllister about working together on this.

**Smith noted that information about Start-Up events or Youth Initiatives would be very helpful for fundraising materials and asked that any good anecdotes, pictures or stories be sent to Smith.**

### **International Coalition**

Former Board member Dick Van Duizend sent a written report.

### **GA Planning**

There are going to be a lot of international events at GA, especially on Friday, which will be non-stop. We will have a half-page ad in the program booklet, but we will also have one ad on the big screen during a plenary session. We will also have a banner that will come up on the GA App. This was a package we bought. The people who are in the Philippines right now will have t-shirts for sale at the UUPCC booth to benefit the Philippines youth. Two of the members of that trip have volunteered to spend time at the booth talking up Philippines partnerships. David Gyero and Kinga Reka Székely will be representing Transylvania [since learned that she will not be coming], but there are no plans for anyone from India to come, as they have an event scheduled for the same time. Cordes also noted Sandor Kovacs will be visiting Bedford in the middle of March.

### **Winter Conference Survey Results**

Gary noted that the workshops got great ratings, but Emrich was the real star, both for her worship service and her workshops. The only negative was the food. The Bellevue congregation did not spend to the budget we provided. Gary noted that the experience of a conference can really be improved with good food.

Cordes and Irwin have discussed holding the next regional conference at his congregation (UUMAN) outside of Atlanta. Irwin has asked permission of the church Board, and they will take it up at an upcoming meeting.

**Next meeting: March 27, 12:00 PM, EST**

**Meeting adjourned at 12: 45 PM, EDT.**

Submitted by Beverly Derington Moore, Secretary.

Approved by the Board on March 27, 2015