

UUPCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 22, 2013
MINUTES

Members Present: Gary Smith, Scott Prinster, Beverly Moore, George Davenport, Kelly Crocker, Ann Gary, Dick Van Duizend, Bruce Johnson, Roger Bertschausen (at 12:50), and Executive Director Cathy Cordes

Members Absent: Cathy Perry, deForest Ralph, Diane Rollert

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held by conference call on February 22, 2013. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. Cordes announced that deForest Ralph is home from the hospital and is recovering nicely.

Minutes

Minor corrections were made. Board agreed that Goals and Priorities be attached in list format.

Van Duizend (M) Ann Gary (S)

Voted: To approve the January 16-18, 2013 Board minutes with the corrections and changes.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report as the bookkeeper has been out because of surgery, and therefore, the January accounting is not yet complete. The report at the March meeting will include both January and February.

Board Chairman's Report

Gary Smith reported on his recent visit to India representing the UUPCC at the Unitarian Union of North East India's Annual Meeting. It was a great celebration of end of the 125th year of the UUNEI. Gary reports he conducted little official business, but met face-to-face for the first time many of the leaders of the UUNEI as well as representatives from other countries. He was the lead sermon on Sunday at their Annual Meeting worship and delivered a workshop on fundraising the day before. It felt at times much like our General Assembly, There were many of the new young leaders, and it was very joyous. The young people were singing; they enjoy being together. Home hospitality was wonderful.

Executive Director's Report

Cordes referred everyone to her written report (attached).

In addition to the report Cordes reported on the project to provide support for partnerships where the minister is in transition. She is working with Rodger Matlage. They have made a list of all the churches they know of that are currently in transition. They are developing support materials and working with Transylvania to do the same there. They envision creating a "support team" to help coach/support partnerships during this vulnerable time.

Cordes also reported on a recent conference call that she and Diane Rollert arranged regarding a visit to Canada in the spring by Fulgence Ndagijimana. It was useful to get all the potential hosts talking to each other. Rollert will take the lead on coordinating this effort.

UUPCC GA schedule

Rebecca Sienes will be attending for the Philippines and will participate in the UUPCC Worship program as well as in the International Coalition workshop.

Following is the schedule of meetings:

Thursday June 20, 1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

Come Sing a Song With Me – UUPCC Celebration Worship with the Coalition of International Organizations with Adel Nagy, Diane Rollert, Gary Smith, and Rebecca Sienes.

Friday, 12 noon to 1:45 pm

Annual Meeting and Lunch with celebration and cake!!!

Saturday 5:30 pm – 6:45 PM

Our Faith and Interfaith: The Blessing and the Opportunity, Coalition of UU international Organizations with Thomas Matthew, Keichi Akagawa, Mahesh Upadyaya, and Rebecca Sienes

We probably will also schedule a UUPCC Board meeting for breakfast on Thursday and possibly have a breakfast for international partner guests on Friday am.

20th Year Anniversary Events

Kelly Crocker reported on 20-year events. She has been working with Harold Babcock and John Gibbons to plan the 20th party. They talked about showing the UUPCC video that will also be shown in plenary. Beth Norton will work with Gibbons to find folks who can provide music. Past Presidents that we believe are coming are Richard Beal, John Gibbons, Harold Babcock, Barbara Beach, and David Keyes, and we are checking on others. We will recognize all the founders. They would like all the founders to write something to read at the luncheon. Cordes has names of 16 founders. Gibbons will brainstorm some more. We also will have decorations and cake.

Bethesda Regional Conference Evaluations

Ann Gary created a survey instrument, sent it to all the conference attendees, and compiled the data from the returned responses. Moore has summarized the survey responses and will send the preliminary report to the board members to read and write their own conclusions from the data and send the conclusions to Moore and Gary. Moore would also like to add Board members' personal estimates of the numbers in each workshop. Overall responses to the conference were very positive.

Progress Reports on Goals / Priorities

Bruce and Moore said there was nothing to report from the Membership Committee. There were no other reports on goals and priorities.

Partnerships with UK churches

Jim Robinson, currently the minister in Sharon, MA was a minister in the United Kingdom for 6 years. Robinson suggested that we consider partnerships with UK churches. It would probably be with smaller churches, which would provide a partnership opportunity for small congregations in the US. UK Unitarian churches tend to be very small, (e.g., 25 people). Robinson has volunteered to help recruit partners. He is going to talk to the UK General Assembly of Christian and Free Churches headquarters and ask if they are interested. In addition to having new partnerships, it would be a wonderful trip to offer because we could offer a history of Unitarianism in the UK.

Another opportunity is that it would give everybody pause to realize the UK churches are not

poor, and consider “Why are we partnering?” It would get across the idea that Partnership is not about saving or rescuing anyone or providing charity. Smith said the last idea is the strongest and brings in the purpose of partnership. Cordes said the next step is to see if UK churches want partners. After that, the Board will have to vote because we can’t add countries until Board has agreed.

Winter Board meeting

The ICUU Council meeting is in NYC in February, 2014; so we will to shift to an earlier time.

The Board agreed to have the winter meeting in Dallas in January, 2014, about the 15-17th.

Cordes will check with Dallas about the winter board meeting and the possibility of having a regional conference there.

Roger Bertschausen joined the call.

Nominations

It is time to prepare for a new cycle.

Board Member Nominating Committee. Committee includes Chair Roger Bertschausen, Barbara Pescan, and Larry Coburn. Their first task is to ascertain current board members’ interest in continuing if their term is up. The committee needs to wrap up by mid-April for Call to Annual Meeting. The board needs people familiar with using technology and someone else from the western US. Send names and what you think they will bring to the table to Bertschausen.

Nominees for Endowment Committee. This committee is appointed by the Board. If you have names to recommend, send them to Smith, Bertschausen, and Cordes. This will happen after GA.

Board Officers Nomination Committee. Officer nominees need to be in place by the annual meeting. Smith will put together a committee of the Board to recommend board officers.

Annual Meeting Agenda

Smith proposed a new policy that all new business must be presented in writing in advance of the annual meeting. This policy will help with timing at the annual meeting. It will include any agenda items. The policy will be sent with the announcement of the Annual Meeting with instructions to send agenda items to the secretary by June 1. The Board agreed to this proposal.

Future UUPCC Board meeting dates:

March 22

April 12

May 10

June at GA in Louisville

No July meeting

August 9

September 13

October 11

November 15

Dec / Jan TBD

Cordes will send an email to board members to ask them to let her know if they not going to GA.

There being no further business at this time, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 12:59 PM.

Beverly D. Moore, Secretary
Approved by the Board March 22, 2013

Goals/Priorities Update

1. Increase the number of partnerships.

Cathy, Ann, John and Maria Pap are revising the Partnership Application. Drafted and waiting for final comments. New applications will be revised to fit each country and American / Canadian application will include steps to follow to become a partner church.

Cathy contacting each country to provide recent info on churches needing partners. Follow-up will be with Eric Cherry to identify churches to invite to partnership. May involve Peter.

New website will have pages for each country with a list of churches in that country needing partners.

Cathy talked with Rev. Christine Robinson from Albuquerque. She is contacting several people she knows in large churches that might be interested in Kenya partnerships. 3 potential partners in Kenya identified.

Rev. Jim Robinson has proposed potential partnerships with UK congregations. He is checking with Headquarters in UK to gauge their interest. Has offered to help identify and contact churches here if there is interest there. Next steps would be for the board to vote to add the UK to countries where we partner. Then we need to discuss with UUA and Eric Cherry's office. After that, we need to get applications from churches and to match people. This will require very little heavy lifting on the part of staff. Ron Cordes is working on a itinerary for a Unitarian history tour of the England.

2. Retain and revitalize congregational partnerships

Cathy and Rodger Mattlage are meeting on Thursday Feb 21 to outline ministerial transition support process. Will expand group to include new people outside the board and the "usuals."

3. Infrastructure and Leadership

Margot, Ron Cordes and I are working on the new website design. Beginning to identify pages that will need to be rewritten / redesigned. Framework in place. Next step is visual design and then training and testing for new site. Launch expected mid-April.

Other Activity

Working on AMBCV (Orphanage in the Khasi Hills) agreement, oversight committee and financial reporting process. Creamlimon has been assigned as the contact person there. The office is now responsible for contacting donors. A Steering Committee is to be established to review the operations of the AMBCV and to help recruit new sponsors for the children there. We are working with John Hewardine in the UK. He is representing the Bowland Trust that has been involved with the UUNEI (India headquarters) and the AMBCV for many years.

Newlife School (NLS) Uganda consortium meeting and support. A new semester has started. Plans are just starting to bring two of the teachers from there to the US to visit partners in 2014.

Philippines BUILD project is back on track with a conference call last week. The steering committee is basically Lee Boeke Burke, Eric Cherry, Michael Lim (Malaysia) and Rebecca Sienes (Philippines) Eric and I are exploring ways to include all churches with building projects to routinely include a small

percentage of their fundraising for international building needs among U*Us around the world. If your church had a capital campaign that included raising money for some additional purpose please let me know.

Working Group – UUA, ICUU and UUPCC will be meeting soon to review Kenya plans and next steps, **ICUU Council meeting in NY in February 2014** and UUPCC initiatives and ICUU initiatives.

The travel season is underway in Transylvania with 16 total trips scheduled at the moment.

Faith Without Borders – Nicole McConvery of the UUA International Office has developed a new “international organizations” website at www.uuinternational.org Take a look – it’s pretty good.

I am exploring potential person for contract website upkeep and development. I hope to have someone in place by the time the website is ready.

Winter Board meeting – December possible? Conference connected to event? We will discuss this on the call Friday.

GA

Rebecca Sienes will be attending for the Philippines and will participate in the International Coalition workshop. Here is the schedule of meetings that we are involved with:

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Gary Smith

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Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Cordes, Feb 20, 2013