

UUPCC Board Meeting
Thursday June 26 and Friday June 27, 2014
At General Assembly in Providence RI
Minutes

Members Present: Jennifer Emrich, Ann Gary, Eileen Higgins (via Skype), Beverly Moore, Diane Rollert Gary Smith, Dick Van Duizend, Executive Director Cathy Cordes

Members Absent: Roger Bertschausen, Kelly Crocker, George Davenport

Also Present: Laurel Amabile, Carol Cook (incoming Board member), Margot Fleischman

A meeting of the UUPCC Board was held on June 26, 2014 at the Biltmore Hotel. Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

Minutes

Voted: To approve the minutes of the April 7 and May 16 meetings.

Executive Director's Report

Cordes introduced Laurel Amabile, the stewardship and development consultant who will be working with the UUPCC for the following year. Cordes explained that Amabile assisted in modifying the UUA model Gift Acceptance Policy for the UUPCC, a draft of which has been circulated to the Board.

(M) Moore, (S) Van Duizend

Voted: To approve the new UUPCC Gift Acceptance Policy.

Cordes acknowledged Van Duizend for all his hard work in modifying the bylaws and MOU with the UUA to allow the changes necessary for the change in tax status, including the addition of a UUA designate member of the UUPCC Board (who will be Eric Cherry). Chair Smith will meet with UUA President Morales to sign the MOU tomorrow at 5:00 pm, and the new board member will be effective as of the approval of the bylaws at the UUPCC Annual Meeting.

(M) Gary, (S) Van Duizend

Voted: To accept the updated MOU with the UUA.

Cordes reviewed Annual Meeting plans and logistics for the special reception on Friday. Amabile thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with the UUPCC organization in the area of stewardship. She expressed her appreciation for the strength of the UUPCC organization. She feels that the UUPCC leadership is poised to do wonderful work to fulfill its great mission and to step up as leaders to generate an infusion of money to fuel the programs that have been identified as priority areas for the year.

This opportunity for the reception is not only to create a time when you can bring your most loyal people into the room together, but also to begin the work of engaging conversations in an intentional way for donor cultivation, creating an ongoing relationship with them. We have begun to create a system to identify who those people are, and their

attendance at the reception indicates their level of commitment to the organization. Some of the invitees are long-term donors or loyal members, and some were referred to us. Cordes and Amabile also looked through the GA registration list to identify other individuals. The overall financial target is \$60,000. Board members have been assigned one of the target areas (new partnership start-up model, youth involvement, Community Capacity Building, and Travel Grant program) and will receive abstracts that include some funding goals for each area. One important thing to note is that as a UUA-related organization, UUPCC funds can be invested with the UUA, and UUPCC is also part of the UUA's Umbrella Giving Program.

[Meeting continued Friday morning, June 27, at 8:24 am]

Treasurer's Report

Davenport reported via Skype that our financial sustainability is exceeding what we forecast for our budget. A lot of this can be credited to the Travel Program, although Cordes noted that the Travel Program will probably not do as well as projected. Cordes also added that with the increased activity related to GA events and initiatives, there is a lot of money going out, and it is something that she is watching. Smith remarked that \$30,000 was earmarked for these new initiatives.

Report on Goals - update

Cordes reminded the Board on where we are with the "Goal 5" initiative (Next Generation of Partnership) and circulated a draft document outlining the concepts of "Partnership with a Capital P" and the Partnership Start-Up Weekend. Emrich explained that the subcommittee has reviewed this material several times by phone, and is looking for questions and feedback.

Cordes noted that some of the newer partners are very excited about the workshop opportunity, but there will be a lag-time with rollout because it necessitates a fair amount of planning and scheduling, and it can be stressful to a congregation to add it to their preaching schedule. It is critical to make the congregations understand that this program is a vital part of becoming a new partner. Higgins suggested that we work up sermon samples and materials so that anyone can do it. It would be great to get in someplace and just do it; Cordes suggested that Sarasota or Tallahassee could be prime targets for a pilot.

Bertschausen volunteered to contact the ministers at these congregations and Emrich, Bertschausen, Higgins, Van Duizend and Davenport are all willing to go to do the program. Emrich pointed out that if this works for new partnerships, then we can use this same model for a "re-start" program for existing partnerships. Wayland, MA and Arlington, VA might be appropriate for this kind of service.

Youth Involvement

Cordes updated on the Youth Involvement goal and the effort to align with the summer camps program run by ODFIE; there is a lot of energy coming from DREs about this idea. Cordes and Emrich will work on it this summer. The individual at ODFIE who organizes this will be the Balázs Scholar from August to January, so we will have access during the fall. This initiative is an outreach program for congregations regardless of whether they already have a partnership. We will need to get the word out to LREDA.

Transitions Committee

Smith explained that we are looking ahead for the next six months to two years to address the staffing needs of the organization as Fleischman leaves UUPCC this summer and Cordes prepares for retirement in two years. There are two things to do: to look at the present and acknowledge the work that has been done and to look forward with a “blue skies” perspective.

In the short term, is there some of the money in the visioning budget to allow the staffing to change to free Cordes to do more of the kind of work the Board wants her to accomplish. Cordes explained that what she needs from the Board is an affirmation that the next two years the office will stay in Bedford and what funds are available. Smith affirmed that the \$30,000 is available for use to create the staffing that allows Cordes to continue to implement the new vision of the Board. The new staff member(s) will have a clear understanding that this is a 2 year commitment.

In the mid-term, there has to be some financial work done, including with development and institutional membership. Congregations need some notice if the institutional membership dues are going to change. Gary also pointed out that the Travel Coordinator role may change in the future, and there are financial implications for the Travel Program that we have to be aware of and plan for.

As we move into the fall, we have to do some feasibility work: who will be on the search committee and what is the Board’s capacity?

Other Board Reports

Van Duizend made a brief report on the Africa partners and volunteered to stay involved in this area after he leaves the Board.

Emrich noted that it would be important to have a discussion about how to attract younger ministers, youth coordinators. and youth leaders to the movement.

Future 2014 Meeting dates:

- NO July,
- Aug 8
- Sept 5
- Oct 3
- Nov 14
- Dec 12

Meeting adjourned 9:33 am.

Approved by the Board of Directors Sept. 5, 2014/Beverly D. Moore, Secretary