

## ABRAHAM LINCOLN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST BOARD MEETING

June 7, 2011

Approved.

4 pages

Present: Kurt DeWeese, Brian Renyolds, Michael Plog, Roger Powers, David Brunson, Kathy McGuire, Victoria Vincent, Doug Liberati, Chelsea Fry, Martin Woulfe, Carol Floyd, Phillip Anderson, Carol Bailey

INSPIRATION BY: Kurt De Weese from the UU World, Fall, 2010, "The Spirituality of Service".

MINUTES: Victoria moved that we adopt the amended May, 2011 Minutes. It was seconded by Doug. The motion was approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: Victoria said the Budget is being followed well and so is the fundraising. The use of electronic payroll is being investigated. 1) Funding the Courtyard work has come from the Giesecke Fund. The Courtyard work cost \$300. more than the amount of the Fund. A Memorial Fund in memory of Bonnie Ettinger's parents is covering some of the expense. More money may need to come from the Facilities Committee. Kent Childs is calling some members to see if they would donate money to cover the remaining expense. Should Special Projects Funds be used for this expense? 2) The Facilities Committee has priced doors for the Commons to be \$300.00. Todd Babcock has given this quote to the Church. To divide the Darwin Room a fire alarm is needed, most of the rest is already present. The cost for the partition will be \$550.00. Is there a motion to approve to building project in the Facilities report? We hope the Special Projects Fund will cover the costs for the Darwin Room. Victoria said she also hopes the Fund will cover the expenses. The following is a list of purchases to be made or projects to be completed. Some have estimates. Labor costs of re-staining the top portion of the building, \$1,050.00; repair to wind-damaged chalice tower, roof and siding, \$1,000.00; build a dividing wall in the Darwin Room, including trim work and the addition of a commercial smoke alarm, \$500.00; refurbish and install 2 large shallow donated bookcases in the divided RE room, \$50.00; refurbish the monument sign, \$1,100.00; add glass doors to Commons, commercial quality, using volunteer labor, \$3,000.00. Victoria moved to accept and approve each project separately as listed. Brian seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion.

The copier is not working at the present. It has needed many repairs. CDS Copier Company said they would lease us a machine for \$168.00 a month with a 60 month lease. The purchase price is \$5,000.00 with a maintenance fee of \$40.00 a month. The purchase is \$3,000.00 a year over the present budget stated Brian. Is there an advantage to leasing versus buying a copier, asked Kurt? There are issues that need to be investigated. The phones are still not working properly. Cheryl's phone is not working most of the time, although two other locations are working. Cheryl says that new wiring has been suggested, or a separate line for the fax machine. Kurt asked if we need more lines, and will there be an added cost if we get one? Victoria said we do have rusted phone boxes outside that may need to be replaced. The planning for the Trash and Treasure sale is going well. 35 people have agreed to prepare for the Sale.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dianne Roberts-Hill would like to know why there is no feedback from the Treasurer on the RE Committee budget. The Church budget was posted, unlike past years when committees received statements. The committees need to watch for those posted budget statements.

Victoria said there are now 4 people involved in handling and recording of the church money with vendors and other expenses. Brian said that the committee liaison needs to inform the committees what their remaining balances in the Budget are. Dianne wondered what the parameters are for the Senior Youth who have raised \$5,000.00 they wish to use for travel to Cons. They exceeded their budget slightly last year. Victoria said each committee is responsible for any parameters they wish to use. Kurt said funds could be included in the RE funds or they could be dedicated as Sr. Youth funds. Victoria made a motion that there be a dedicated Sr. Youth fund in the Budget. Chelsea seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion.

SOCIAL ACTION: Doug says there will be a 3 month list for the Change for Change collection. The Inner City Mission was previously chosen for the June collection, but there were objections because of the Inner City Mission's religious positions. They have very Christian views that diverge from ours. Do we become involved with groups like this? Carol Floyd said she understands that NAMI recommends the Inner City Mission because it is the only shelter that accepts the whole family. Kurt asked where the idea came for donating to the Inner City Mission? We have donated to food pantries of other religious groups churches. Martin said the Social Action Committee should make the decision of which groups benefit from the Change for Change collection. Doug said he might submit a three page list to be looked at. Michael said if a group we send money to would not support our Church, we don't want to send them money. . Some members were not happy with that choice. Kurt said the Social Action Committee should send a list for Board approval. Carol Floyd she would approve or disapprove a benefactor depending on the description of their purpose. Kurt said thank you to Doug for the discussion. The Board intends to continue its ordinarily relatively routine signoff on Change for Change.

Kurt said Posy Flatt wants a wish list of needed repairs and their expenses. We need a process of deciding on future spending requests.

Gwen Childs wants to know how we recognize scattered remains in the Courtyard? Maybe we should keep a book of Remembrance somewhere in the Church. Pages could be added to it as added ashes are placed in the Courtyard. Martin Wolfe said he has been directing the scattering of a small amount of ashes for 8 years. We may wish to decide on establishing a fund for remembering those who have been deceased. Families have found some form of remembrance meaningful. A book of remembrance was started 7 years ago, but its location is unknown. Kurt asked if Lynnda White the Intern, might be asked to oversee the Book of Remembrance? Martin agreed. Victoria said when burying ashes to watch out for the drain pipe. Martin said only a hand is used to move soil, not a tool. Victoria asked if Ashes should be placed in the prairie garden? Kurt said feedback on putting ashes in the prairie garden should come from the Facilities Committee.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Martin conducted five services in May. Also there were 2 weddings and 1 memorial service. There are 13 Civil Unions and weddings scheduled for June. There are 214 members. Two New to UU meetings were scheduled, but no one came. One New to UU meeting is scheduled for June. Martin will be around all summer. Lynnda White has 7 people who agreed to be on the committee to supervise her. Lynnda will be in her chaplain training program until August; at that time she will come to ALUUC. She needs a list of responsibilities. There may be people pre-candidating here for the church in Decatur and St. Louis. There was a Gay Pride Event downtown on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Kluges were there at a booth for our church. 20 people asked for information about ALUUC.

There was a Jr. High campout scheduled, but it had not been approved by the RE Committee. The information about the campout had been in the Newsletter. Good processes of knowing if the campout should be in the Newsletter were not followed. Martin recommended the campout plans should be shelved. Carol Floyd asked how should late newsletter entries be coordinated? Kurt said we need to change the process of which items are in the Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR REPORT: There are New to UU meetings scheduled. The Fellowship Committee had been very helpful in involving new members. Susan Solon intends to do more advertising our Church in the area.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Kurt said a Capital Improvement Task Force has been formed. There are long term projects planned. Some are: more storage space, more files, and more RE resources. Should there be more paving done for parking? There are roof repairs needed. There are also other phases of the building plans that could be completed. The mortgages could be paid off by the summer of 2017. We need some long term and short term strategies planned before 2017. Phillip moved that there be such a Task Force planned. Doug seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion. Those who want to serve on the Task Force may. There should be 5 to 7 members, and the meetings need to be open to all members. Martin should review all plans they make. Carol Floyd asked if churches worry about over building physical facilities? Are there churches who have made decisions like these that we could consult? Martin said by 2017 we may have 300 members. We may need to double the programs we now have in 8 years. Kurt said we had consulted with the UUA and found that information useful. We have thought of having 2 services. If we want to complete the building plans for this Church, we may need \$1 million dollars more than we had for the previous construction. This year we hope to have plans to present to the congregation about building plans.

Marina V has had three concerts at ALUUC. She is coming to Springfield in July and would like to perform while here. Would the Board agree to her being here? We have collected \$100.00 to \$300.00 by sharing the ticket collection and selling snacks. Phil made a motion to allow Marina V to perform at ALUUC. Doug seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion, On July 10<sup>th</sup> Alex Holt will be preaching at ALUU. There will be a potluck following the service.

Doug asked, is anyone in charge of the Library? Kurt answered that no one is now. Maybe Theresa Liberati or maybe Kitty Wrigley would be interested. We may need to reestablish the position of a

librarian. Is anyone keeping track of the hymnals? Brian said sometimes the web-site shows the wrong services are scheduled on Sunday. Who should check this mistake? The Electronics Communication Committee needs to have another member so they can check the information that is available. Carol Floyd said we should consider the use of electronic announcements versus using the web-site.

The next meeting is July 5<sup>th</sup>. Brian made a motion to adjourn. Chelsea seconded the motion. The Board agreed to adjourn.

Respectively submitted, Carol Bailey  
Board Secretary