

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SEPTEMBER 8, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

Chalice was lighted

Meeting began at 9:30 am

Present: Frank A., Sandy W., Kathleen B., Tom B., John A., Mary G., Toyan C., Kit Ketcham.

Mary G. read a verse from Rumi about in-gathering and lit the chalice. After a brief check-in, Kathleen gave her financial report, which was accepted with no questions. The agenda was reviewed and the minutes from the last meeting were accepted.

MINISTER'S REPORT

Kit's report to the board included a list showing how she would divide her time to our congregation this year. This was a reasonable approximation and she was happy to take questions.

She shared a poster regarding our becoming a Welcoming Congregation and said that with our joining, we pushed over the 50 percent mark nationally.

She has been meeting with the various church committees and has lots of ideas about how she can be of assistance. She mentioned coming of age rituals for the children in the CRE Program, and how to manage geographic connections in the Caring Connections Committee. She has also had discussions with Baird and Ken regarding membership and how she can be a liaison between Worship and Membership Committees.

The question arose, who contacts the Sunday service speaker the lay leader or the church secretary? Kit said in her experience the lay leader was the contact.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING COMMITTEE Roy is continuing to collect firm quotes from sub-contractors. There was some question about numbers stated in the Building Committee minutes, but Tom explained that the number was a gross value and sweat equity would reduce it closer to \$450,000. Discussions of time lines with the county process were clarified.

"Frank reiterated his concern for building a green facility. Frank moved that we commit to seeing that the new church building is as "green" as possible and requests that the Building Committee submit a proposal that includes bids for (a) ground source heat pump, (b) SIPS construction and (c) advance installations to allow future activation of a photovoltaic system. The extra cost for implementation of these features will require approval by the Congregation."

The motion was seconded by Tom and passed unanimously.

The Capital Campaign Committee has scheduled a meeting that Toyan plans to attend.

SOCIAL ACTION / CONGREGATION FOCUS: Kit has offered to get the Social Action Committee started. First, she would like the Board's thoughts on her idea of creating an all-congregation project or focus. Do we want that instead of, or in addition to, an active Social Action Committee?

The board discussed a leadership council meeting involving the chair of each committee in an effort to create a committee of the whole, which would generate greater coordination and connection throughout the congregation.

A Calendar Council will develop the yearly schedule identifying events during the year to avoid conflicts. This Calendar Council will meet October 7th, a time and location to be announced.

The August board retreat facilitated by Terry was very beneficial and Kit reiterated it was the best one ever.

The Mission Statement's history and value was the next topic of discussion. It was decided the statement was OK, but we would like to invite an opportunity to improve, shorten or capture the sense of the statement in more eloquent words if possible. Toyon will write something for the newsletter to start the creative juices churning.

BUDGET

The Operating Budget Projection approved by the Board at its last meeting stated we need an additional \$3,750 this year to cover our operating costs. The Board was able to achieve this through a combination of cuts to expenses in the amount of \$2,750 and increases to income in the amount of \$500 from fundraising and \$500 in expected pledges. Notification of these cuts and increases will be passed onto the Finance Committee and to affected committees.

Kit will propose a Social Action All-Congregation project. The process will look at the interests of the Congregation, Our Mission, Agencies on Island to partner with, tutoring kids, coaching, gardening, parties, painting, letter writing and more. Every member will be invited to volunteer something for a one-year commitment.

Mary G. shared a letter asking the board to consider a special Board meeting in which congregants are invited come with any concerns to be heard. The board discussed and confirmed its current policy of allowing time in each meeting for congregants to come and be heard. Toyon will respond to this in her President's column in the next newsletter.

Next meeting October 5, 2006

Meeting adjourned

Prepared: 9/9/06 John A.