

OPERATIONS COUNCIL MINUTES FINAL

Tuesday January 16, 2018
Children's Chapel, 7:00 P.M.

Attending: Susan Bartlett, Laurel Farnsworth, Jeannie Chaisson, Judy Curby, Ted Hess-Mahan, Rowan Van Ness, Josie Greene (BOT), Linda Ross (assistant clerk).

Called to order 7:00 p.m.

Invocation/Chalice Lighting – Jeannie

Reading - Laurel

Covenant

As we, the members of this Council and staff, gather to serve this congregation in leadership, we commit to ourselves and to each other: to be present and prepared for the work of this meeting; to listen well and contribute respectfully; to balance both our short and long-term visions with fiscal responsibility; to support the decisions of the Council; to uphold the democratic process; and to lead with goodwill and faith in the work we can accomplish together.

Approvals:

Minutes – December 2017 Jeannie moved to approve, Ted seconded, unanimous approval.

Staff Update – Rowan

- There was a last minute fund raiser last Sunday for the UU society in San Juan, Puerto Rico. \$623 was raised by children selling baked goods; an additional \$600 was raised after Rowan emailed about the effort. \$250 more will be coming. Money is to go for mosquito nets, solar lamps, tarps, water purification products. There may be enough money to purchase all. She spoke to Lynn Holbein about Social Action possibly building a longer term relationship with this UU congregation.
- Youth preparations for Coffee House underway (1st weekend in March).
- Convening accommodations and inclusions team for RE.
- OWL underway at all 3 levels.
- Laurel asked if youth could help re-hang Black Lives Matter sign; Rowan said yes, need to coordinate with other meetings.
- Standing on the side of love changing name this week to “Side with love” in respect for disabled persons who may not be able to stand.

Report on BOT Meeting Judy (Susan and Laurel also attended)

- Financial updates and stewardship were a large part of the meeting.
- Interest in having youth help with worship service to get them more involved (readings).
- Erin will be doing response to #MeToo movement soon.
- Welcoming Congregation team has several events coming up.
- Financial updates – meetings have been going on regarding budget drive and what needs to be accomplished.
- Erin asked Julia Wolfe to be 3rd co-chair of budget drive (with Saul and Brian Gill; she agreed).

- Budget drive target is 7% over last year's pledges. Need to do this to stay even; cannot take more money from endowment for operating expenses.
- Financial Open House February 11, Alliance Room, during Community Breakfast, to answer questions about finances and budget.

ABD update and database work

Database has been rolled out. Susan asked if Sam had been able to enter financial information; not sure.

Financial

- **Review year-to-date spending** – spreadsheet had been sent to OC members. Cold, snowy winter means more expenses.
- **Update on financial policies** - Judy – had circulated version to OC last week; ready to pass on to BOT. Everyone agreed that a few sentences of explanation would be useful.
- **FY19 budget review schedule***

GA delegates

- Was done by denominational affairs committee which no longer exists. Laurel volunteered to go (meeting is in Kansas City June 20-24, 2018). Names must be assembled and BOT must approve. Housing reservations are done on March 1. Early registration fees available until May 1.
- Need article for next newsletter to try to find interested persons – up to 9 can go. Interested persons should write a paragraph as to why they're interested.

Update: Committee issues/reports, including:

- **B & G – Pine Village security issue – Laurel** - working on it. Area has been measured to see if locking of interior door to school corridor can be done to code; more complicated than they thought.
- **B & G – sign at front of property** - Laurel – historic sign in front needs to be replaced (old one fell apart). Discussion of what should be done – general consensus to replace historic sign. Judy asked about tapping Wayside Pulpit endowment. Laurel will check into cost of new sign.
- **Potential fundraising idea** – Laurel – Savers business model is to be functional thrift shop for non-profits. They will come and take away what we collect (esp. clothes). Won't make a lot (maybe \$2000), but good recycling. 1000 pounds is \$800. Several fund-raising ideas were discussed. Idea suggested of having Savers take leftovers from Yard Sale. Laurel emailed everyone the information to review for future action.
- **Art show update** – Jeannie – no one has gotten back to her; too late to do it this year in any event. Will re-visit next year.
- **Newsletter columns – February will be about GA delegates**

Thank yous – Julia Huston for Christmas pageant.

*Current budget schedule:

Feb 20: B&G request

March 20: RE request

April 17: PPC proposal

Then, May 15 for Ops review, which (like last year) seems too late; suggest week before-e.g.

Thursday May 10

June 3: Annual meeting