

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF BENTON COUNTY

## Board Meeting

Rogers Public Library

February 3, 2017

**Present:** Richard Bland, Suzanne Miltich, Kathy Rogers, Karen Tucker

**Absent:** Jim Jensen, Ellen Tate

**Treasurer's Report:** No report.

### **New Board Member Welcome & Orientation:**

- Karen Tucker and Richard Bland were welcomed to Board; Ellen Tate had to leave before meeting began because of illness.
- New members attending were asked to review Bylaws on UUBC website and note especially duties of Board members and officers.
- Minutes of January 5 meeting were provided, and after discussion, a decision was made for Board Secretary to distribute minutes for approval within 10 days of meeting. After review, members are to advise Secretary of additions, corrections, or deletions. Approved minutes will then be posted to website within two weeks of meeting date.
- New members were advised that they had been added to Yahoo UUBC group, which will be used for Board communication.

**Election of Board Officers:** Tabled until all Board members present. Suzanne agreed to serve as Acting President and, as 2016 Board Secretary, will take minutes of today's meeting.

### **Role of Board members:**

- Discussed need for Board members to be actively involved in the management activities of our lay-led congregation and be a worker and/or Board liason for teams/committees.
- Suzanne provided listing of teams recommended by Rev. Susan Smith, former UUA Contact for UUBC,
  - Stewardship/Administration
  - Membership
  - Faith/Spiritual Development
  - Worship/Program

We discussed liason for Religious Education as another need, possibly as part of spiritual development.

### **Administrative:**

- Sunday Set-Up: Karen Tucker offered to be 'the holder of key' and to regularly come early for set-up. Suzanne suggested that Board members work with her on a rotating

schedule, both to ensure help and for them to be prepared to lead set-up team when Karen is not available or needs a break. Karen will recruit other helpers in order to have a known set-up team each Sunday.

- Meeting Space:
  - Karen noted that she is looking for a rental space for UUBC that will reduce the time and resources needed for set-up at current location. Karen asked that Board members consider space needs for rental, noting that we now use 2,000 sq. ft. for service plus space for R.E.
  - Jeff has suggested possibility of renting from Rogers First Presbyterian and agreed to contact minister there. Suzanne will ask Jeff about this contact.
  - Discussed possibility of renting from church that doesn't meet on Sunday, e.g. Jewish synagogue or from Seventh Day Adventists in Bentonville.
  - Richard advised that First Church of Christ Scientist in Rogers on S 12<sup>th</sup> Place is for sale.
- **Membership:** Suzanne expressed need for an active membership drive to encourage those who attend regularly to become members, suggesting,
  - Announcement be made during service(s).
  - Arrange to meet with interested group of potential members.
  - Induction of new members at congregational meetings in June & October.

#### **Social Media:**

- Kathy reported that UUBC website was down for a few days because of difficulties with Joe's server where our site resides. Discussed possibility of moving site to commercial server for greater reliability.
- Kathy reported that Ann Harrison, who recently attended for the first time, sent an email through website expressing her concerns that the initial email she and her husband received was political, i.e. email sent with resources for political activism. Kathy responded to Ann's email with an appropriate, well-written response, and they exchanged another email with each other. Further follow-up with Ann seems appropriate, and Suzanne will follow through.
- Board agreed that Social Media policy is needed. Kathy has been researching this, has reviewed policies from other congregations, and will draft a UUBC policy to present at March meeting.

**Ongoing tasks/projects:** Suzanne reported the following in progress and needing follow-up,

- **Banner:** Chris Delacruz is working on design and has asked for feedback on proposed design. Team is needed to finalize design, and develop plans for construction and implementation of banner. Suzanne will contact potential members for this team.
- **Logo:** A new logo design has been proposed, and Board has previously asked for design that includes name of our congregation. Suzanne will follow up with Chris on this.
- **Church of the Larger Fellowship:** Suzanne advised that she and Julie are considering this for Sunday services this year in order to provide more UU Ministers. She contacted Christine Purcell, our UUA contact, who provided information about services and cost,

which begins at \$250 for trial over several months for service that provides monthly-themed worship materials that include talks, music, readings, etc. Board agreed on at least this minimal cost, and Suzanne will provide specific information about other options through Church of the Larger Fellowship.

- **OWLs:** Kathy reported that,
  - She is with Grades 10-12 training in Fayetteville this week-end.
  - Plans for Grades 4-6 training this spring in Benton County.
    - Hannah Roberts and Teresa Honey Youngblood will be trainers.
    - Training planned for Sunday afternoons.
    - Location not yet secured. Suzanne will follow up with Peggy Hicks, Ministerial Coordinator, First Christian Church, Bentonville, as possible location. She will pursue other possibilities if needed, including Unity Church of the Ozarks; First Christian, Rogers; St. Andrew's Episcopal, Rogers.

### **February Services:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday— Rev. Sara Bainbridge, 'Sharing Hope'
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday—Discussion: 1) 'Sharing Hope' and 2) 'Grace Without God'
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday—Theresa Honeycutt Youngblood, 'Mentors in Headscarves: Women, UU's Third and Fourth Sources, and the Lessons of Lives of Orthodoxy'
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday—Social Sunday

Suzanne proposed a format for Social Sunday that would change within a quarter, e.g. an inter-generational program one month, an adult R.E. discussion that addresses a question agreed upon the previous month, and another different program to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Miltich, Secretary