

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board Minutes
March 9, 2006
DRAFT

Members present: Margaret Knudsen, Shelley Ferer, Art Vaeni, Mike Harbour, Tim Ransom, Melissa Denton, Samantha Ritchie, Bernie Brady, Peter Teets

Members absent: Mary Walton Cameron,

Visitors: Wendy Tanner, Kurt Rader from the SPACE Committee
Jerome Chroman, Corinne Kelly from Washington UU Voices for Justice

Minutes: February Board meeting minutes were approved with minor changes.

Sponsorship for UU Voices for Justice: Jerome Chroman and Corinne Kelly met with the Board to explain their organization, answer questions, and ask OUUC to become the fiscal sponsor for UU Voices for Justice. UU Voices for Justice is a progressive legislative advocacy network that was started by a grant from The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Its goal is to impact public policy and create a cohesive culture of organizing for social change. The role of OUUC as a fiscal sponsor would be to receive the grant money (as a 501(C)3) and pay the salaries for Corinne and Jerome. This fiscal sponsorship would run through the end of the fiscal year (June), and continue on through next year. This will not damage our 501(C)3 status because the amount of money is relatively insignificant. We would receive reports from the UU Voices for Justice as the year progressed, and would have the opportunity to participate in UU Voices for Justice workshops and trainings.

The Board accepted the motion that we become a fiscal sponsoring church for the Washington UU Voices for Justice. We will oversee the process as it proceeds.

Treasurer's Report: OUUC is \$1728 in the red for 2005, which puts us in excellent financial standing. The Board decided to ask the finance committee to determine a better strategy to monitor pledges as they come in (\$20,711 in pledges were not filled.)

The Finance Committee plans to begin posting Assets, Reserve Accounts, and Budgets on the web.

Tim will thank retiring Finance Committee member Mary Welch for all her work.

Administrative Report: (written) accepted. Margaret will look into the specifics of 501C(3) rules and how they apply to OUUC. She will present this information at our next meeting.

Minister's Report: (written) accepted

Discussion/Action Items:

Share The Plate Recipients: The Board accepted this list from the Social Justice Committee:

Mar/Apr: SPEECH (South Puget Environmental Education Clearing House)

May/Jun: Turning Pointe (Domestic Violence services in Mason County)

Jul/Aug: Choice (Regional Health Network)

Sept/Oct: Monarch (Children's Justice and Advocacy Center)

Nov/Dec: Nisqually River Basin Land Trust

SPACE Committee Report: Wendy and Kurt reported that the SPACE committee has met with two architects who have special expertise building churches. Both architects proposed a phased approach. The most difficult aspects of the plan will deal with parking and with creating access onto Division Street. The SPACE committee will hire one of the architects, and get more specific information regarding site feasibility, cost of building phases, etc.

Assistance from the UUA: The Board discussed rehiring Larry Wheeler from the UUA to assist in the next step of our Strategic Plan. It was felt that his expertise and "outside view" is quite helpful. An Organization Contract with Larry Wheeler, which would extend from April to August 2006, would include two visits as well as e-mail and phone contact. This will cost \$3120. The Board voted to proceed with this contract.

Future Congregational Discussions/Meetings:

March 31: Congregation discussion with update from SPACE committee

April 28: Congregation meeting

Worldwide Church of God Departure: The Worldwide Church of God will no longer be renting space from OUUC. The Communication Committee may be buying the overhead projector from them. Future discussion will deal with whether we wish to rent our space to some other organization, or have it more available for our own use.

Music Director Position: Troy has asked that we change his contract from an independent contractor to a part-time employee without benefits. This will not change the church budget except for unemployment compensation, L&I, and the bookkeeping involved in changing him to an employee. The Board voted to change his status to a part-time employee without benefits.

Our next meeting will be April 13.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Ritchie, Co-Secretary

Tim Ransom, Board President

Summary for Unitariana: In March, the Board voted to become a fiscal sponsor for the Washington UU Voices for Justice. We also got an update from the SPACE committee, and decided to rehire Larry Wheeler from the UUA for help with our strategic plan. See the OUUC website for a copy of the March Board minutes.