

UURMAPA BOARD Meeting
January 5, 2016

CENTERING –Jim read an invocation. **No one was selected to do an opening reading for our Feb. 2 meeting.**

CHECK IN: Liz McMaster, Doug Gallagher, Judy Welles, Judy Gibson, Judy Gillis (arrived later), John Manwell, Joel Weaver, Marni Harmony, Jim Eller.

REPORTS (see separate reports filed with these minutes)

President – Jim –

Hopes we read what Scott Tayler sent all of us (included in the President's Report for this meeting).

Vice-President – Marni

Nothing to add to her report. Business: **Marni will make arrangements to get people from LAX to SB.**

Secretary – Judy Gibson

Moved for approval of minutes of December, 2015 Board meeting. Marni seconded. Approved.

Reiterated the need for reports to be sent *as attachments* rather than written in the body of an e-mail message; less work for the secretary.

Treasurer – Joel

Nothing of substance to add.

Caring Network – Liz

Got e-mail from Stephan Papa, who is interested in the possibility of being Area Coordinator for Colorado/Wyoming. Still could use help in recruiting for the areas mentioned in her written report.

At large, Caring Network Assistant – Judy Gillis

Plans to ask Area Coordinators to hold a luncheon in their areas in April.

Conferences – John

Deferred until later in the meeting

Elderberries – Judy Welles

Getting everything rolling for Winter, 2016, might be 12 pages this issue.

At large, Good Offices and UUA Board – Doug

Will have a big report next month because January will be a busy month.

CONFERENCES

A - Attleboro 2016

Ginger Luke wants Board advice on program ideas. We approve of her suggestion for whom to ask to give the Odyssey in Attleboro, Fall 2016. We suggest that Ginger create a historical list of who has given Odysseys at the Fall Conference; that list will eventually reside with the Conference Coordinator portfolio. [Secretary's note: it would be a good idea to do the same with the Winter/Spring conference.]

Programs: (1) Wen Stephenson, author of a Beacon book: *What We're Fighting for Now is Each Other: Dispatches from the Front Lines of Climate Change*. (2) New director of UUSC, whoever it will be. (3) Candidates for UUA Presidency (4) an All Music Program, which she could put together. She will plan a field trip that will be compatible with the program.

The Board preferred #1, Wen Stephenson. Climate Change issues could be worked in for both Fall 2016 and possibly followed up at the Spring, 2017 conference. Less interest in the Music program, none in #s 2 or 3. John will give feedback to Ginger and ask her to use her judgment.

B. What to Do for Winter 2017.

John Newcomb Tennis Center outside San Antonio, TX has made us a proposal of \$221 per participant for two nights. John will make a reservation there for a 3-night conference once he gets some commitments from an organizer, or several. We would like to be able to announce firm dates at the Santa Barbara conference.

Reminder that the Board will be responsible for the program, and local committee only has to be registrar, interface with site, etc.

We should consider a regular cycle for the Winter/Spring conference. Consensus: have a regular three-year cycle (e.g. Orlando, Southwest, West Coast). It would be good to have a consistent site in each area.

Cost: Judy Gibson reminded us that we decided to charge participants the full conference cost rather than underwrite the cost.

C. Winter 2016

Ken Collier has given up being registrar for SB. Craig Roshaven will take responsibility for live streaming the program; he is working with the UUA on this. He will also interface with the talent to get releases.

MINISTER ON LOAN

Scott Tayler's vision would go beyond just a 6-week commitment; might be any length of time from 2 weeks to a year.

Scott will meet with the Board in Santa Barbara on Monday, and will be inviting people to join him Tuesday afternoon for more discussion. La Casa limits the number of people who can come onto campus; we will also need to pay \$10/person (UURMaPA would pay). This will be more like a focus group, not a rollout of the program. Suggestion: Invite people off the conference waiting list.

AMENDMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Judy Welles moved/seconded that we adopt Jay Atkinson's wording of our purpose and amend our by laws accordingly. Passed without exception. The new statement of purpose reads as follows:

"Working in faithfulness to the Unitarian Universalist tradition and to the guidelines and code of conduct of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, the purpose of this organization shall be to serve the interests and enhance the well-being of retired Unitarian Universalist ministers and their life partners through informational communication, periodic membership gatherings, and other supportive programs and activities."

Judy Welles will have it changed on the website and put it in the newsletter.

Judy Gibson will notify our Membership Coordinator, our Massachusetts Resident Agent and the Massachusetts Secretary of State about this change in our By Laws.

DISCUSSION OF DEFICIT BUDGET

We should discuss this matter in person in Santa Barbara, after giving it careful thought. Joel reminded us that about 40% of our budget goes toward Board expenses, and perhaps we should be using more of our financial resources to address our purposes rather than for this overhead.

Marni offered a closing blessing.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Welles, Secretary *pro temp* with help from Doug Gallager

REPORTS SUBMITTED FOR JANUARY, 2016 - UURMaPA BOARD MEETING

President: Jim Eller

Santa Barbara Conference: I have been in touch with Ken Collier who has had to resign, because of his wife's illness. He has been replaced by Carolyn Price. I double checked with them to make sure that we have a room for Scot Tayler to stay in. I have been in touch with Casa de Maria about room usage for our Board meeting and for our "focus group" meeting with Scot Tayler on the Minister on Loan program. I was informed that Casa de Maria limits the number of people on the campus. This means that when we invite people to attend we will be limited to about ten or twenty non-conference attendees and we will be charged \$10 per participant. This is limiting.

Minister on Loan: I visited with Scot Tayler. He has been continuing to work on our project, has shared his ideas about it with UUA staff and UUA Regional lead staff members. He is very supportive and now thinks of himself as one of the initiators of this new program. See his next steps below:

Correspondence is as usual with numerous new members and condolence letters going out. Thanks to Marcia Olsen, Judy Gibson, and Liz McMaster for their outreach work as well.

UURMaPa-UUA “Minister-on-Loan 2.0”

Game Plan as of Dec. 29, 2015

- **February Santa Barbara Retreat**
 - Boards meets Sat night, Sunday & Monday Morning. Conference begins on Monday night with Tuesday being full of workshops.
 - **Presentation/Discussion Plan** = Scott, Jim & Marni will present and refine plan with Board on Monday morning during the board meeting; Then present plan to UURMaPa members on Tuesday
 - **Scott’s housing:** Jim will get Scott 4 nights: Sat – Tuesday Night.
 - Keith will not come along to Santa Barbara. Instead, Scott will represent both Congregational Life and the Transitions Office.

- **Preparation and Plan Development**
 - Steering team (Jim, Marni, Scott and Keith) will meet in late Jan. Scott will set up the meeting.
 - Scott and Keith will continue talking and coordinating at their monthly meetings in Jan and Feb
 - Scott will get buy-in and input from his staff in early Jan. In particular, he will engage Congregational Life staff specialists in the area of small congregations as well as staff working on Developmental Ministry and Connie Goodbread who is piloting expanded consultations with congregations.
 - Keith will run this by the Transitions Roundtable
 - Jim will continue to engage Hillary Goodrich about Funding Panel grants. Grant due March 1 and will hear back Oct 1.
 - Jim will take the lead on writing the grant and engaging the rest of us as needed.
 - History research: Marni and Keith will be on top of this. We’ve heard that Liz McMaster wrote a history of the minister-on-loa program but we can’t find it.
 - Scott will ensure that Don Southworth and UUMA are kept in the loop and solicited for input.
 - Keith will ensure that Sarah Lammert is kept in the loop and solicited for input.

- **Topics to address as we work together and design all this together:**
 - Accountability: Clear lines of accountability will be important.
 - How this fits with new Developmental Ministry models - How do we move beyond the older goal of this being about congregations trying ministry on for size? How can it become enlisting retired ministers to work with congregations for discreet periods of time to accomplish strategic/targeted developmental goals?
 - How does this fits with new directions and new thinking regarding interims?

- How this fits with Cong Life goals around multisite and seeing small congregations as the “new seed bed for beyond and entrepreneurial thinking.
- What is our ask of Hillary and the funding panel?
- Payment: need to be clear from the beginning that this will not be a money maker but also won’t end up costing retired ministers.

Vice-President: Marni Harmony

I’ll just mention that I have checked with Makaanah Morris and the newest peer group successfully began in November and is meeting monthly—all going well.

The group I’m in (which began last year) has “exchanged” a few people and has finally “jelled” and meeting every month.

I will maintain a list of retirees who would like to be in a group (currently at 3) and start a new group once we have at least 7 people.

Secretary: Judy Gibson

Beyond last month’s minutes, no further written report this month.

Treasurer: Joel Weaver

Could not successfully copy reports Joel sent – Monthly and consolidated for 2015

Newsletter Editor: Judy Welles

I, too, have little to report, although the deadline for the winter Elderberries is looming. So far I have received the “What Brings Me Joy” column (Sarah Moores Campbell on raising goats) and some news for Turning of our Lives. Got a “no” from Scott Taylor about writing the Leadership Column about the planned/hoped for Minister on Loan program, but he said he’d probably be ready to write something for the Spring issue.

So I REALLY need to get cracking, and I have a wretched cold and don’t feel like doing anything other than binge-watching “Grey’s Anatomy” and knitting. Hopefully I will start feeling better soon and will get my old energy back so that I can get going on this!

Winter 2016 might be a small issue — 12 pages rather than 16.

At-Large Member: Conferences – John Manwell

I have found very little time for UURMaPA in December. In addition to the holidays, after a couple of years of exploration, Phyllis and I have completed a year-end deal to move to Asbury Methodist Village, a continuing care retirement community in Gaithersburg, MD. For the next month we’ll be downsizing, then moving in mid-February. We know when the move is behind us that we’ll love it – even though until summer, it will mean a longer commute to our church in Virginia.

With the holidays I haven’t yet followed up with Don Southworth about their conference planning experience.

Here’s an overview of where our conference planning stands:

Winter conference 2016 – La Casa, Santa Barbara – on track

Fall conference 2016 – La Salette, Attleboro -- Thanks to Joel, we're on La Salette's schedule -- board meeting October 1-3, conference October 3-6. Ginger Luke is in charge.

Winter conference 2017 – We have a proposal (below) from Amanda Klein of the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels, outside San Antonio, TX, where Keith Kron has held the annual interim ministry training for the past few years. I've been there for two of them, and enjoyed it. Of course you don't have to play tennis – but if you're a tennis player, like Keith, it must be heaven. Lovely outdoor space for conversations.

Amanda Klein <~~amanda@newk~~amanda@newktennis.com>

GREAT! We have opened up 2017! The dates available are Feb 13-15, March 6-8 or March 13-15 (*based on two nights, we can add the other night if you decide to do a three night package). The package price is \$221pp based on 2 nights and double occupancy. The price includes accommodations in 2 bedroom condos, all meals Monday dinner through Wednesday lunch, coffee breaks and afternoon snacks, meeting space for general assemblies and 3 smaller breakout rooms. Please let me know if you have any questions or need more details from me.

It would be our pleasure have UUA here again!

The price seems reasonable, and I'm assuming our preference is February 13-15. The quote is for two nights; if we want three, we'd need a further quote.

I had a long chat with Marie Brown at Attleboro about the UU conference center in Kerrville, the name of which I've misplaced. I spent time on their website, too. One of their buildings is named for her late husband, Dwight Brown, former DE. The conference center sounds lovely but it seems too small to accommodate us very well. I've written further to her but no response as yet; I'll be following up but don't expect it to be in the running.

I'd like some guidance from the board on our preference. At this point I don't see a need to look at other locations, unless we want to go back to La Casa in 2017. Last time I was in touch with them they hadn't opened their calendar yet for 2017, but it's time to try again if we are interested.

Once we've decided on the date and place, I can recruit a planning team. I have been in touch with Bill and Laurie Grace, retired in San Antonio. Bill might be helpful. I've also been in touch with Josh Snyder, our minister there, and he's enthusiastic about having UURMaPA come. I'd follow up with him for suggestions. But we'd have to look to our UURMaPA membership for leadership, just as we have with La Salette. I'd want to talk with Marie Brown, Art Severance and Craig Roshaven, among others.

Fall 2017 – I'm assuming we'll continue to plan on La Salette until there's reason to look elsewhere. If we have to turn away people this coming Fall, that would be a reason. With Ginger's leadership, we may well have 75 again. But I haven't had much encouragement in thinking that we can find a larger place in the Boston vicinity at a price our members can pay.

Beyond 2017 – I'd like to see us develop a long-term pattern for our winter location. Do we want to rotate, southeast to southwest to west coast, and back?

Look forward to talking with you on Tuesday.

Caring Network Chair: Liz McMaster

No written report this month.

At-Large Member: Caring Network Assistant - Judy S Gillis

No written report this month.

At-Large Member: Good Offices - Douglas Gallager

I have no report for December, but January looks like a busy month for me. Diane Dowgiert and I will be meeting with the transitions specialists, to begin shaping the Good Offices training at GA in June. On February 3 we will have three (East, Midwest, West) Zoom conferences with the Good Officers from those areas, the coordinating team (Don Southworth, Fritz Hudson, Diane and me) and one specialist from each of the three specialties (transitions, multi-staff, separations). Oh, and I forgot to mention the UUA board meeting. The board packet isn't out yet so I don't know if there are any issues of special interest to UURMAPA, but the meeting is on my calendar for Jan. 22, 23.