

Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of the Board Meeting
April 17, 2013

All Board of Trustees members and Reverend Hilary Krivchenia were present.

Karen Noorani, and John Mosman were present as observers.

Art Paton, Marty Farrington, and Janet McDonnell were present to update the Board on Project Rose.

President Greg Blus called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

Beth Ligouri made a motion to approve the March 17, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting minutes and the march reports (Minister's Report, Assistant Minister Lifespan Religious Education Report, Stewardship Report, Project Rose Update, CCUU Financials for February, the Finance Committee Minutes, the Personnel Committee Quarterly Report, and the Ministry Council Notes. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Project Rose Team Update

Art Paton updated the Board of Trustees on the Project Rose work completed to understand the ideas and concepts dealing with the possibility of changing the name of Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist. This team began their work on July 27, 2012 in response to a question raised by a member of the congregation at a Board Town Hall meeting.

Since starting their work last year, the Project Rose team has heard from 40 members of the congregation. These members had strongly held views about our identity, what we've been and common values and views about Countryside, Art explained that the Project Rose Team has taken this assignment about as far as they could and presented the Board with three options:

They offered three recommendations for the Board to consider:

1) Continue on...Engage the congregation directly through direct mail, telephone and proactive dialog at coffee hour. In addition, propose one or more naming town halls and use the higher risk strategy of getting people to share their views and be heard by all.

2) Fold the work of the Rose Team into a larger exploration of the shared theology of the congregation. As the congregation becomes more aware of their shared meaning and value, then the question of a different name can be engaged in a larger context.

3) Stop the ROSE Project as a good attempt to engage the congregation that simply found they did not want to discuss the issue and had higher priorities on their mind. While a few shared strong opinions, it was those who chose not to do so that are the undiscovered country. What was discovered by the ROSE Project can be shared with ministries and membership to inform their work with the congregation.

The board discussed the pros and cons of these three choices referencing the idea of a strategic planning process in the new church year, the small number of people who commented on the name, and having an end to the current Rose Team's work on this project

The Board expressed its gratitude and thanked Art Paton, Marty Farrington, Ken Sepos and Janet McDonnell for the efforts and hard work on this project.

Tom MacTavish made a motion that the Rose team create a project archive file on all the work/processes used for Project Rose. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board agreed that we should update the congregation on the end of the Rose Team Project at the Annual Congregational meeting on May 19, 2013.

Outreach Steering Committee

Bev Sneddon made a motion to approve Bruce Bendix, Laura Mandell and Siri Laurin as the Board's selections for the Outreach Steering Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Committee on Ministry

Reverend Hilary discussed three people as possible candidates to fill the opening created on the CoM by the departure of Larry Frank.

2013-2014 Budget

Greg Sweigert made a motion to approve the \$473,000 budget for 2013-2014. The motion carried unanimously.

District Assembly

Greg Sweigert made a motion to approve Bridget Smith, Dan Wiseman, Bev Sneddon, Beth Ligouri, Jeanne Michaleck and Gloria Kinney as delegates for District Assembly. The motion carried unanimously.

General Assembly

The names of nominees were reviewed as possible delegates for GA. Decision needed at the May meeting.

Visitor Tracking

Richard Chay updated the Board on the results of tracking visitors for the past three years. The tracking showed that the number of visitors has increased significantly over the past three year. The number of 1 time only or 2 times only visitors has also increased as a proportion of all visitors. Kinship Ministry and Membership Committee has a plan to follow up with these 1X/2X visitors to better understand what explains their lack or continued interest in Countryside.

Leadership Slate 2013-2014

Greg Blus read the names of the nominees/terms for all positions to be voted on at the May 19th Annual Meeting.

Priorities for 2013-2014

The Board agreed to consider this at a future meeting.

Governance Discussion, Part 1

The Board discussed the meeting that has held with Reverend Schuler, Minister of the Madison Church, on April 13. This was a review of the Madison church highlighting 22 staff members, the lack of a Ministry Council, how projects/initiatives are vetted. There was no action list coming out of the meeting with Reverend Schuler.

The Board affirmed the need to continue the governance discussion and to consider how CCUU is governed relative to other available church models. Greg Blus reviewed ideas gleaned from the Hotchkiss book on governance.

Wrap up

The Board members reviewed all action items from the meeting.

Reading and Adjournment

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, May 15, 2013 at church.

These minutes were submitted by Richard Chay, Board of Trustees, Secretary, Countryside Church.