

**Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of the Board Meeting
August 21, 2013**

All Board of Trustees members (Kathy Dalhgren, Gloria Kinney, Beth Ligouri, Tom MacTavish, John Mosman, Deb Quentel, Sheryl Skifstad, Bridget Smith, and Bev Sneddon) were present at the meeting. Additionally, Rev. Hilary Landau Krivchenia attended. A quorum was present.

The following individuals were present as invited guests:

Dan Wiseman, Membership Coordinator
Karen Noorani, Service Ministry Co-coordinator
Courtney Renwick, Service Ministry Co-coordinator

President Bev Sneddon called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

The Board noted that Rev. Krivchenia has requested that the Board of Trustees hold the afternoon of September 29, 2013, in reserve for a possible planning meeting, as a follow-up to the Board's September Retreat. Additionally Rev. Krivchenia would like to plan for conversations with the congregation about the history of CCUU, as grounding for further discussions. Rev. Krivchenia shared a handout from her summer study about Appreciative Inquiry. Appreciative Inquiry is about appreciating the best of what is present and looking to amplify it in your organization.

Treasurer Beth Ligouri responded to a question about the North Property. The lease is not yet signed although all parties are believed to be in agreement over the increase in rent. Mark Huston is taking the lead to resolve the remaining concerns of the tenants.

Lastly, the Board of Trustees noted that the Outreach Steering Committee seemed to be off to a great start. And, the Board appreciated their report.

Beth Ligouri made a motion to approve the July 17, 2013, Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes and the August reports (Aug. 14 Finance Committee Minutes, Aug 4 OSC Report, Senior Minister Report, and August Action Items). John Mosman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Fall Board Retreat Update

President Bev Sneddon reported that she, along with Rev. Krivchenia, Bridget Smith, Beth Ligouri, and Deb Quentel had participated in several informative conversations with the Retreat facilitator, Dr. Rev. Lisa Presley to begin the planning process. The group has discussed the Board's expectations of the facilitator and the outcomes of the Retreat. The facilitator is ready to work with the CCUU Board. Friday night will include a team building event and a communications session. Saturday will be focused on long-range planning. Additionally, the Board wants to spend time building a calendar for the 2013-2014 year. President Sneddon reminded members of the Board to contribute their \$71 share to defray retreat expenses.

Social Media Policy

Sheryl Skifstad updated the Board on her progress investigating elements of a policy that CCUU can adopt to guide posts on CCUU's Facebook pages and the use of other social media. It was agreed that congregational life is enriched when members and visitors can view all the activities at CCUU on its Facebook pages.

Safety Task Force – Conceal Carry

Kathy Dahlgren reported that Illinois' conceal / carry statute will not be implemented for six months. Dahlgren, Rev. Krivchenia, Laurie Lantz and Mark Huston have met to discuss alternatives for CCUU. The Safety Task Force is moving ahead with the purchases approved by the Board in spring 2013. The purchases were delayed because of construction in the sanctuary. It is anticipated that additional expenses will arise. President Sneddon reminded the Board that the Safety Task Force is not a standing Board committee and should be moved to Ministry Council.

President Bev Sneddon read an email between the architect and Paul Sneddon; the architect reports that the Village of Palatine inspections went well. The floor should be done by end of this week. There are walls and carpentry work to be completed. By the last week of August, the architect predicts that there will be a better sense of the completion date.

Journeys / PADS update

The Board invited Courtney Renwick and Karen Noorani to share details of their conversations with Pat Harrington and leaders of other congregations that currently serve as PADS sites. Renwick and Noorani's comments were a valuable contribution to the discussion; they were able to share details about their conversations regarding issues that CCUU should consider before reaching a decision. The Board engaged in a lengthy discussion before President Sneddon polled the Board members to ensure that everyone had an opportunity to share their point of view. The Board and Rev. Krivchenia concluded that Pat Harrington should be immediately invited to CCUU to meet with its staff and view the facilities to assess whether CCUU would satisfy any requirements that PADS has for a shelter. Further, a measure of the congregation's interest must be assessed. To this latter point, it was suggested that a tentative congregational meeting be held September 8th, but that date will be confirmed after the meeting with Pat Harrington. Participating as a PADS shelter would be a large undertaking for CCUU, and it would require significant involvement from congregants. The Board acknowledges the significant contribution that both Courtney and Karen made in gathering information and the members of the Board thanks them for their work.

At this time, Courtney Renwick and Karen Noorani left the meeting.

New Business

CCUU Staff Briefing for the Board

The Board of trustees invited Dan Wiseman to address the Board in response to a series of questions that the Board submitted to Wiseman about the role of Membership Coordinator and his experiences in this new position at CCUU. The position of Membership Coordinator has a steep learning curve for anyone. Wiseman saw his role as catalyst: Orientation Class, for example, leads to the Path Class. Wiseman reminded the Board that growth should not be the sole measure of success. Instead, Wiseman suggested that success be measured by "vibrancy" and by the numbers of people coming into CCUU and participating whether at service, as an RE instructor, at movie nights, or chalice dinners, to name a few. To better understand members and friends of CCUU, we would need to track everything that happens in a week. The Board thanked Dan for his detailed responses to its questions and his insight on membership and the position of Membership Coordinator.

With his presentation completed, Dan Wiseman left the meeting.

Board “Huddle” sessions

In the interest of time, President Sneddon moved this item to the Agenda for the Board Retreat.

Intern plans at CCUU

Rev. Krivchenia reported that CCUU is in line to have an intern start fall 2015. It is anticipated that the first intern will come from Meadville. CCUU has been very successful with full-time interns in the past; CCUU has produced more ministers from its full-time interns than on average. Planning for interns requires time and money. Rev. Krivchenia's sabbatical schedule must be taken into account when planning for an intern, as interns requires her supervision. Additionally, in future years, CCUU may need to consider how to fairly stipend an intern.

Wrap up

The Board members reviewed all Action items from the meeting.

Reading and Adjournment

Beth Ligouri made a motion to adjourn. Bridget Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, September 18, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at CCUU.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Quentel, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, CCUU