

# FUUCA Board of Trustees

Meeting date: **Tuesday, August 16, 2011**    **Started: 6:30 PM**    **Ended: 9:30 PM**

Location: FUUCA

Purpose/Notes: Regular scheduled meeting

Chaired by: Chris Jimmerson

Minutes rec. by: Brendan Sterne

## Attendance:

Present: Meg Barnhouse, Margaret Borden, Ann Edwards, Luther Elmore, John Franks, Sean Hale, Eric Hepburn, Chris Jimmerson, Rose Ann Reeser, Klondike Steadman, Susan Thomson

Regrets:

Absent: Brent Baldwin, Brendan Sterne, Eric Stimmel

Late:

## Guests:

(none)

## Meeting Documents:

- 08-11brdpckt.pdf

## Meeting Minutes:

### 1. Committee business

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#### 1.1. Call to Order

Chris Jimmerson

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:30.

**Status:** Completed

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#### 1.2. Opening Reading and Lighting the Chalice

Rose Ann Reeser

Rose Ann read a prayer.

**Status:** Completed

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#### 1.3. Board Covenant

Chris Jimmerson

**Documents:**

- Ideas for a new Board Covenant v2.docx

**Status:** Completed

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#### 1.4. Adopt Agenda

Brendan Sterne

The agenda was adopted with the change of switching the workgroup reports with the discussion with Rev. Meg Barnhouse.

**Resolution #:**

**Moved by:** Ann Edwards

**Seconded by:**

**Status:** Carried

**Vote:**

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#### 1.5. Consent Agenda

Brendan Sterne

**Resolution #:**

**Moved by:** Margaret Borden

**Seconded by:**

**Status:** Carried

**Vote:**

**Documents:**

- New Members.doc

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## 1.6. Process Evaluation

Margaret Borden

**Documents:**

- MeetingPrep-ProcessGuide-3.doc.pdf

**Status:** Completed

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## 1.7. Visitors Forum

Brendan Sterne

There was no one who wished to present.

**Status:** Completed

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## 2. Old business

No Old business

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## 3. New business

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### 3.1. Check Signing Authority

Eric Stimmel

The board approved the check signing authority document transferring the authority from the old Board Executives to the newly elected Board Executives.

**Resolution #:**

**Moved by:** Rose Ann Reeser

**Seconded by:**

**Status:** Carried

**Vote:**

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### 3.2. Board Education - Profit & Loss Statement

Luther Elmore

Luther lead a discussion to deepen our understanding of the Profit & Loss Statement and how we can use these reports to better understand how the church is doing.

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.3. interim process regarding new members and member resignations

Chris Jimmerson

Due to the fact that the bylaws now have eliminated the need for the secretary or the treasurer to be in charge of reporting new church members to the board, Chris outlined an interim process (see attached) to be followed until the board writes its own interpretations of its process policies at the "Making it Happen Retreat".

**Documents:**

- Interim Membership Procedures.doc

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.4. Exercise - Linkage - World Cafe Feedback

Susan Thomson

The board was asked to use the results from the latest World Cafe to see if we need to update our ends vis-a-vis "Radical Hospitality".

She also shared these notes from our consultant Joe Sullivan:

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#### LINKAGE QUESTION PURPOSES

The very first thing a board does before designing questions and the session format, is to know its purpose(s) for particular linkage. You phrase the Board's purpose for this linkage session as exploring "questions around our End--radical hospitality, that will provide insights that will help the board and congregation move toward the future we want rather than live with the future we get." This implies to me that the Board is wanting to see how close its current articulation of the "radical hospitality" end (your four "Level 3" subends represent your current articulation) represent the "future we want." This it #1 at least five possible purposes:

1. Gaining clearer/deeper insight into the end from owners, which could result in the Board's rearticulation of the Level 3 ends under the Level 2 radical hospitality end.
2. Gaining insight for a baseline of the differences people feel in their lives right now related to this set of ends, so that the board can assess progress over the next several years;
3. Educating owners through a linkage event about their ownership role.
4. Educating owners about various outside perspectives related to this end.
5. Affecting the owner's (and thereby the congregational system's) expectations for the future through questions and dialogue that directly address a central part of the mission.

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--JOE SULLIVAN

Eric H. expressed that if we use a survey instrument with the members of the church, we should wait until we have been in the new Sunday format so that we could monitor how our services were creating a "Radically Hospitable" environment.

There was a discussion of how we should interpret the responses we got. Since many of the responses seemed inwardly focused, should we make our ends more inwardly focused, or do we need to ask questions at linkage events that more effectively elicit the owners' largest dreams?

One of the big outwardly focused ideas that did come up at the linkage events was the idea that our church has a powerful "saving message" that is meaningful to many people outside our church. The idea that we can "sing it from the treetops" and that there will be many who are excited to hear this message resonated with many at the event and on the board.

It was also suggested that we might restart the process of re-writing our ends so that we could deepen our understanding the ends as they were originally written.

The Policy Group was asked to have a discussion with Joe about how we might revise the Ends to add the idea of doing outreach to our "Radical Hospitality" End.

#### **Documents:**

- FUUCAFE notes 6\_11.doc

**Status:** Completed

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### **3.5. Snack Break**

John Franks

**Status:** Completed

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### **3.6. Board Calendar**

Chris Jimmerson

Chris went over the board calendar vis-a-vis being a greeter. We had agreed to revisit the greeter role when before signing up for the next few months.

Chris said that the membership ministry had expressed their appreciation that there were board members were available. Several people expressed that they had had positive interaction with a newcomer when they were greeting.

It was decided that we should continue the program. A schedule was passed around.

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.7. Gathered Here

Susan Thomson

Susan discussed what to do next with the 'Gathered Here' initiative (the UUA program to explore the most powerful aspects of our faith). She remarked that in a PG church it would make sense for the minister to decide what kind of involvement we should have. Since our minister has only been in town for 2 days, Susan suggested we might give her some time to decide what kind of involvement the church will have.

Margaret stated that she thought the program was structured so that anyone at the church could volunteer and that there was no need for the minister to make the decision. There was some disagreement about this. Meg stated this would be a valuable program, but she does not know just yet if this is something she wants to get involved with. She said she will assess her availability for this project over the next few weeks.

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.8. Opening Reading and Lighting the Chalice

Eric Stimmel

**Status:** Completed

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### 3.9. Board / Executive Discussion

Meg Barnhouse

Margaret asked how to best schedule individual time with Meg. Meg answered that she has welcomed people to have lunch with her during the week and is happy to schedule time outside of those lunches as well.

There was a general expression of gratitude that we are beginning this journey together and how hopeful we are that this is such an excellent fit.

There was a discussion of how to bring the "Covenant of Healthy Relations" into church life in a way that it could be woven into the fabric of our church, rather than just something we read at congregational meetings.

**Status:** Completed

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## 4. Committee business

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### 4.1. Work Group Reports (5 min each)

Chris Jimmerson

Margaret reported from the linkage group that since we had already had events related to radical hospitality, they were recommending focusing on "Doing Justice" at the the next event. Particularly the "practicing liberal religious values..." aspect of the "Doing Justice" end.

The Policies group presented the reformatting of the policies and recieved feedback about the numbering system.

the Board Education group presented that they needed a working definition of what resources are needed for board education.

**Documents:**

- First UU Austin Policies - 2011-03-15 (working reformat).docx

**Status:** Completed

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### 4.2. Process Evaluation

Margaret Borden

Margaret went over the process evaluation.

**Status:** Completed

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### 4.3. Action Items

Brendan Sterne

Klondike: update policy numbering style (bullets, phil of gov)

Linkage group would let us know if they needed help

Policy group will talk to Joe

Susan Met and Chris will meet to discuss "Gathered Here".

Write a new board-executive covenant.

**Status:** Completed

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#### 4.4. Board-Executive Team Covenant Reading

Brendan Sterne

It was agreed that we should re-write the covenant so that we have a covenant that is truly owned by the new executive, but we read the current covenant.

##### Documents:

- Cov Bd and ExecTeam-2.doc.pdf

**Status:** Completed

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#### 4.5. Closing Reading and Extinguish Chalice

Rose Ann Reeser

**Status:** Completed

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Total time scheduled: 163 min