

Committee of Chairs Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2019

Unitarian Church of Montpelier

Attending: Liz Benjamin; Pam Cameron; Ron Cameron; Sandal Cate; Sarah Franklin; Judith Hinds; Joan Javier-Duval; Paul Ohlson; Phil Morse; Bill Payne; Jennifer Payne; Bill Pelton; Janet Poeton; John Poeton; Deb Robinson; Charlotte Root; Elaine Stehel; Barbara Thompson; Peter Thoms; Paul Wallace-Brodeur; Meredith Warner

6:30 p.m. -- Opening & Chalice-Lighting -- Elaine Stehel

6:35 p.m. -- 90-second CoC Updates

- Sandal Cate -- Women's Alliance -- \$3,000 for Fall Rummage Sale; 1-89 fundraiser upcoming; monthly potlucks; May Rummage Sale
- Phil Morse -- Welcoming Congregation Committee -- 6 members; March 31 LGBTQ Service w/Transgender focus; April 3 evening event w/Spouse of trans woman
- Paul Ohlson -- Property Committee -- basement update; focus on painting
- Barbara Thompson -- Membership Committee -- recruiting for Membership Committee members & Hospitality Team volunteers; coordinating w/LSE for youth ushers & greeters; Spring "New UU" Classes March 27 & 30; New Member Sunday April 14
- Pam Cameron -- Small Group Ministry -- 2 groups, 16 active participants
- Liz Benjamin -- Accessibility Committee -- February webinar; April speaker from VCIL w/invisible disabilities
- Meredith Warner (for Theresa White) -- LSE Committee -- LSE snack table needs volunteers; family night planned for Feb/Mar
- Paul Wallace-Brodeur -- Finance Committee -- monitoring funds, including long-term & capital
- Bill Payne -- Worship & Arts Committee -- Say Their Names, Solstice, & New Years Eve services being planned
- Peter Thoms -- Thursday Warming Shelter -- Thursdays, 5 - 8 p.m. in the Vestry; 15 volunteers each week on average; 2-10 attendees depending on the week; Tyler Weedon from Bethany Shelter frequently attends; Joe's Kitchen donates food; Vestry arranged comfortably like a living room
- Peter Thoms -- Planned Giving -- 3 years ago there were 7 in place; now there are about 22; approximately .5 million
- Sarah Franklin -- **History Committee -- CHAIR NEEDED; additional committee members needed**; Peter Thoms left detailed information on many topics of interest to be pursued by new committee; History Club getting started; considering walking tours of Montpelier
- Jennifer Payne -- Personnel Committee -- supports Executive Team & Staff; working on insurance & benefits; have met UUA compensation guidelines

- Janet Poeton -- Community Lunch -- volunteers always welcome; advisory board meets on 2nd Mondays; working on food safety guidelines for rentals and committees; thanks for help with Holiday Fair, where many non-members shopped; only 1 bag pecans left
- Deb Robinson -- Committee on Ministry -- working with Rev. Joan; working on Covenant of Right Relations
- Elaine Stehel (for Nancy Schulz) -- SPUDS (Service is Our Prayer Buddies) -- Dec. 27 Aldrich Library, 16 adults & 5 teens participated; 222 volunteers since 2011; suggestions welcome for non-profit orgs to arrange volunteer projects with
- Jollification -- February Talent Show

7:10 p.m. -- Executive Team Update + Discussion

- Ron Cameron -- Evaluating 2-Service Sundays; increased numbers of people attending; preparing congregation-wide survey on worship experiences, music, and LSE
- Elaine Stehel -- How can we best present ourselves to newcomers & visitors, and effectively communicate what we do?
- Long-range staffing vision, including offering insurance & benefits to staff; Ministerial Intern grant applied for from UUA (accepting applicants); staff completed survey to inform ET & Board of staffing needs & visions; ET works to protect financial stability; new door
- Liz Benjamin -- we have no Denominational Affairs Committee -- could be useful to consider, as well as Leadership Development

7:30 p.m. -- Circle of Names; Snack & Social Break

7:40 p.m. -- Congregational Covenant Update -- Deb Robinson -- understanding the UUA (Unitarian Universalist Association); UUs work differently from top-down churches; we agree to the UUA covenant; all covenanting is voluntary, with no enforcement mechanism, but we all have individual responsibility to uphold; Congregational Covenant will be voted on at the Annual Meeting; Poster would be helpful to display to congregation before Annual Meeting

7:30 p.m. -- Board & Stewardship Update -- Charlotte Root (Board Secretary + Stewardship Chair)

- Board of Trustees -- the congregation's visioning body; BoT set & monitor policies, develop & monitor strategic initiatives; have been supporting Growth & Facilities Task Force work with Paul Ohlson & Jen Miller as co-chairs; written report from Stewardship Consultant's Next Steps Weekend will be forthcoming; Task Force being created for Building our Future campaign; date not yet set for Capital Campaign; **Board is in need of a Financial Officer** -- open to nominations/volunteers/suggestions; Board Meetings are open to all

- Stewardship Committee -- focusing on building fellowship, and cultivating values of gratitude & generosity (ex. Gifts of Love Raffle, great fundraiser); planning for accepting credit cards & streamlining online giving; March 9 - 25 will be Annual Budget Drive; **Stewardship Committee in need of energetic, excited, & dedicated committee members**

7:45 p.m. -- FY 2020 Budget Update + Discussion

- Paul Wallace-Brodeur -- email suggestions before January 25th for consideration in FY 2020 Budget Proposal
- Barbara Thompson -- will Capital Campaign be focused only on giving within UCM congregation? (Charlotte Root -- in general, all options will be considered for giving for Capital Campaign, but Capital Campaign will be separate from FY 2020 Budget)

7:50 p.m. -- Next Steps & Planning -- Elaine Stehel

- Who will facilitate April 9th CoC Mtg -- Janet Poeton & Elaine Stehel
- Who will keep minutes at April 9th CoC Mtg -- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
- Thank you Bill Pelton & Charlotte Root for keeping minutes at January 15th CoC Mtg!

7:55 p.m. -- Closing Reading & Extinguish Chalice -- Elaine Stehel

- Meditation by Lynn Unger (available in UCM library in Vestry)