

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Chico Board Meeting

May 18, 2023

Board: Lucy Sperlin, President, Sydney Wilde, Bob Crowe, Beverly McMillan, Susan Bachlor, Dave Keller, Courtney Singer, and Pam Sachs

Absent: Beverly McMillan

Staff: Rev. Bryan Plude and Jane Quan-Bell

Guests: Angela Risdon

The Board meeting was called to order at 7:16 pm by President Lucy Sperlin. Bryan gave opening words.

1. **Approval of Minutes and Committee Reports** – See attached Committee Reports. The April minutes were approved as presented.
2. **Treasurer's Report** – See attached financial statements. Dave reported that pledges are a little behind the amount anticipated, but he received a large pledge in May. He reported that the mortgage will be \$1,210/month and is a 10 year loan. The appraisal came in at \$471,538. Since the loan is less than \$100,000, Tri-Counties refunded \$500 of the appraisal fee. Dave reported that the Endowment Committee will meet in the next couple of weeks.
3. **Minister's Time** – See committee reports. Bryan reported that there will be an Interfaith Pride service at Faith Lutheran on June 28. He also said there should be more opportunities for people to talk about what they believe. It seems that people are more accepting of other religions except Christianity.
4. **Stewardship** – Dave reported that he received 37 pledges which amount to a little more than \$90,000. 96% of this is from prior and long-term pledgers. We also lost \$7,600 from that group, yet recouped \$13,290 to off-set that loss.
5. **Use Permit** – Bob and Bryan will meet with Megan Johnson's lawyer brother, Mark, to discuss the federal Religious Land Use statute. Bryan reported that he has found 2 law firms that specialize in religious land use. A Midwest firm will offer a 20-minute free consultation. A California law firm will charge \$250 for an hour of consultation. Bryan recommended that both law firms be consulted. He is hoping that a letter can be written that will go with the package to the City of Chico.
6. **Building and Grounds** – Bob acknowledged Jeff Sach's and Susan Bachlor's husband's efforts in mowing the lawn in the back. He stated that Adrienne Edwards has students that will expand the garden. The food is going to Wildcat Food Bank. And South Chico Community Assistance Center. They will breakdown the existing beds. Adrienne recommends a landscape firm that will improve the irrigation system. The cost is estimated to be between \$1,500 and \$1,800. Adrienne and Megan Johnson have done weeding.

7. **Contract Ministerial Search** – courtney stated the Search Committee is scheduling interviews with candidates beginning next week. She was pleased that many of the congregants returned the digital survey. She sent out about 92 surveys.

8. **Website** – Nothing to report.

9. **Summer Sundays** – Angela Risdon reported that a format for the Sunday services and discussions has been formulated. She requests that each member of the board sign up for one Sunday. The google document to sign up is found at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nyA3R5phA-U-Rjord1tLY4Tpci8k7T9T8j1sZEk_Qyl/edit#gid=0

10. **Sexual Harassment Training** – Almost everyone has completed the training.

11. **Items for Discussion/Decision**

A. **Minister's Exit Interview** – Dave, Pam, Bob and Courtney will develop the questions for the exit interview and forward those questions to Bryan by June 7th. The Exit Interview is scheduled for June 14 at 4:00.

B. **End of Year Celebration and Send-off for Bryan** – is in the works and will be on June 3 at 11:00 am.

C. **Annual Meeting** – Gary Collier will be asked to act as parliamentarian. David Strohmeier will be asked to print up a sign in sheet and determine if a quorum has been met. The following people will give reports during the meeting.

Social Justice and Vision Statement – Angela

Ministerial Search – Meg Brady

Finance and Mortgage Update – Dave

Budget – Dave

Election – Bob –(note: Bob will only take the gavel for the presidents election.

Use Permit - Bob

Sydney and Courtney are completing their terms on the Board. Beverly is resigning. *Pam moved that Dave Keller be appointed to finish Beverly's term. S/Bob; unanimously passed.*

Merrily Stover and Angela Risdon have been nominated to be next year's board members.

Bob brought up a proposal to downsize the Board. After discussion it was decided that the proposal should be brought up as New Business at the Meeting.

F. E-News –Sydney will write the Board Musings for June.

A closed session began at 8:58.

The next meeting will be June 15 at 7:00. Minutes recorded by Jane Quan-Bell.

Minutes submitted by:

Pam Sachs
Secretary