

# **SCUUF ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

September 26, 2021

Sue Bosley opened the 12:30PM Zoom Meeting with the lighting of the Chalice and the Opening Words.

Kelli's opening prayer focused on courage, curiosity and gratitude.

Ann Turner opened the meeting with a Poll taken of Zoom members determining that we met the 20% attendance for a quorum to vote.

The first order of business was the election of the four nominees to be elected on the Steering Committee for a term of 2022 – 2024. Ann and Leann's terms end on December, 2021.

**Nominees were:** Carol Vantries, Jean Adair, Nanette Del Monaco (current member), and Barbara O'Neil, (current member). There were no nominations from the floor.

Poll opened and all were given an opportunity to vote on line with Dan and Mary calling in their votes due to poor internet connection. **All nominees were approved including two Proxy votes.**

## **Committee Reports**

1. Ministerial Committee: Sarah and Jeff are the liaison to Kelli. Nothing new to report
2. Communication Committee: Nanette liaison to Jean and Gail. PR components; website maintained with Josh Carlisle; Jean writes the Newsletters through Mail Chimp, and maintains the Database. Ads will be placed in the local papers when date is set, announcing when we will meet again in person.
3. Maintenance and Facility: Bruce and Sarah are the back up to the Treasurer. They track finances as related to the Budget, such as Funding Fellowship events. Bruce checks on the Edling building each week and monitors the mold remediation.
4. Membership Committee: Leann and Liesel maintain the Member Database, completed and distributed the Membership Directory, Leann takes the attendance count on each Sunday Service.
5. Sunday Services: Betsy and Eric meet once a month to plan and coordinate Sunday Services. Jim Price leads the second service; the third is a speaker or discussion on the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle. They welcome the new members to share their ideas and opinions.
6. Social Action Committee: Committee members needed for this committee.
7. Ad Hoc "What's Next" Committee: Gary chairs this committee which was formed to look at other possibilities for a facilitate where we could meet, due to the mold issue at the Edling building. A meeting took place with a contact at the Chisago Lutheran Church to consider using the lower floor of their building. That church is looking for a new Minister and no decision was made by their Board to allow us to use their facility at this time. Gary is pursuing a decision. He will send out an email when a response has been received

The Edling owner has hired a company to remediate the mold.

A Steering Committee vote was taken and passed, to make hardware and software decisions in preparation for hybrid meetings. The possibility of meeting in person in January, 2022 will be re-evaluated in December, 2021.

## **Budget**

This was a process that involved the Finance Committee, Treasurer and all the Committees contributed.

The Rent figure is based on the hope that we can resume hybrid services in 2022. The rent was cut in half during 2021 due to Covid.

The figure for the Stewardship Committee expenses were arrived at as expenses related to the possibility of events in 2022.

On Social Action – We dropped Feed My Starving Children, but retained donations to the Backpack Programs in St. Croix Falls and the Food Shelves in Lindstrom and St. Croix Falls.

Gary motioned to approve the Budget; Leann seconded and the Poll was put up for the votes. ***The Poll was open and all approved the budget, including two Proxy votes (one approval and one abstention) Dan and Mary calling in their vote by phone.***

Carolyn Saunders asked if our Fellowship was capable of sustaining the 2022 Budget. Nineteen Pledges have been received so far; the budget was based on money received over the past two years. The Stewardship Committee worked out a 1-, 3- and 5-year plan which prompted the Pledge Drive before the Annual Meeting. Our hope is that we can raise money through events in the future.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Principle** – Shown on the screen

**Sarah moved to adopt and Gary seconded.** The motion was followed by a discussion before the vote taken. Dan stated that he agreed with the motion but that he wanted to see action taken. Kelli stated that the UUA is still working on finalizing the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle and then it will go to the General Assembly. It may take several years but they have asked for as many UU Fellowships to respond as possible as to the acceptance of this Principle. It is a Grass Roots process now with the final definition determined in 2024

More discussion ensued. Comments that the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle is closely related to our Mission Statement, thus how can we not accept it? The challenges we face today warrants a strong statement. Eric stated that accountability is an essential component and hopes that the word will not be lost. Marty voiced her concern as to why she sees trouble coming; hate is visible. One bad action can coalesce groups to stand for love.

***The Poll opened. All voted Yes including two proxies with Dan and Mary voting yes by phone.***

Susan read the closing words. Kelli stated this was her first Annual Meeting and closed with the words, *Take Courage*.

Meeting adjourned at 1:51 PM.

