

SCUUF Steering Committee Meeting
February 21, 2024

Attending: Jean Adair, Kelli Clement, Lin Hipp, Cindy Klatt, Betsy Peterson, Sarah Thompson, Liesel Virchow

Absent: Gary Noren

1. Check-in

2. Call to Order: 2:24 by Betsy. Location: 3 Arrows, St Croix Falls

3. Agenda: Liesel moved to approve, 2nd by Lin/Passed

4. Minutes: approval of January 17, 2024 minutes: Sarah moved to approve, 2nd by Lin/Passed

5. Treasure's Report- (Sarah)

*Handout: Current Budget-Last Month 1/1/2024-1/31/2024 Sarah went over highlights of the January Budget/and Actual amounts.

*Sarah and Bruce are discussing new software along with dropping our current accountant.

*Our CD's earned \$776.93 in interest in 2023.

*The website, Site Ground, which we use, charges a fee on a 2 year basis, our web master paid this and will be reimbursed.

*Cindy moved to accept, 2nd by Liesel/Passed

6. Minister's report- (Rev. Kelli)

*Kelli mentioned she didn't take mileage in 2023, but believe it should remain in the budget, and be taken. She will bill us.

*Kelli talked about her search process for a new appointment both in Milwaukee and Iowa. She has been enjoying the process.

*There has not been a need for pastoral care since last meeting.

*Transition thoughts, per her departure, are covered later in the meeting.

7. Sunday Service Committee- (Sarah)

* Tabled due to Sunday Service Committee not meeting.

8. Membership Committee- (Liesel)

*A meeting will take place following the Steering Meeting

*Barbara McAfee is interested in joining. Kelli feels new members should have an opportunity to formally be introduced to UU and SCUUF, even if they are well versed in UU life.

*An email from an anonymous disgruntled person was received and responded to.

9. Main Street Voices –(Betsy)

*Earth Day details are being finalized for April 6 at 11:00 am. *Post meeting update from Gail: Brian Collins, WI Teacher of the Year will moderate the panel.*

* August there will be a salsa band, and October will host Braver Angels. More info to follow.

10. Social Justice Committee- (Jean)

*Rapid Response is in place

*At the last meeting we agreed we would keep the committee open to all interested parties. We also took Kelli's suggestion to use a Campaign Method, with 3 or 4 campaigns a year, along with potential for acute issues arising that would need quick attention. Campaigns can include as many of the following activities as possible: Advocacy, Education, Service, Witness. Topics for campaigns include: Food Insecurity, Climate Disruption, Earth Day events, CAFO's (feedlot issues) and Political Action. Kelli reminded us of The Real Rules (info regarding how we can, legally, inform our church about political candidates and issues).

*Dann Adair is scheduled to speak about Social Action to the fellowship on March 17.

*Social Action Committee will meet after the service on March 3.

11. Tech Team

*Eric Peterson has helped Ann improve our system.

*Sarah feels that there should be structure around tech issues; the suggestion that an ad hoc team be created with an SC member as a liaison, should equipment need purchasing.

*Jean will talk to Gary to see if he's willing. *Post meeting update: Gary is willing and will create a team after his return.*

12. Going forward-goals, priorities, search committee (Kelli)

* Kelli relayed much information. While a search process can be lengthy, she doesn't think it needs to be so for SCUUF. We would need to decide on what level of involvement we seek (1/4 time, more?).

*UUA has a Transition Office and a handbook to help with the process. Keith Kron (Transitions Director for UUA.org) and Phil Lund (Congregational Life Consultant for MidAmerica Region) will be helpful in our transition.

*Kelli felt we should create a "dream team" made of various people for our search. She reminded us grief will be part of the process. Kelli also offered us a name (Terri Burnor) of someone who may be interested in the position.

*Kelli relayed that it is unlikely that FUS (which is going through multiple personal changes) will continue its support of SCUUF in ways it has, such as the Soul Matters subscription (our monthly themed help), and our Zoom Account.

*Cindy asked if UUA offer recommendations, and Kelli responded that there is a jobs board but not enough interns, explaining a "yoked ministry" (works in several places) vs Community Ministers, who are not attached to a church, which would be wise for SCUUF to pursue.

*Cindy suggested we first assemble that "dream team" and talk to transition folks.

*Kelli felt we should look at rewriting our Mission Statement.

*Cindy expressed concern that we could lose attendees without Kelli.

*Sarah asked if Cindy would take on the role of creating a Transition Team. Cindy will think about it. Kelli offered extra time to help us.

13. Regional Assembly (Betsy)

*Betsy gave us information about the Regional Assembly held in Madison, WI on April 19 and 20th. She is asking if anyone would like to attend as our representative.

14. Article 2 (Betsy)

*This has to do with UUA bylaws and their rewriting. Some UU groups (including Blue Hills) have objections. Speak with Kelli or Betsy if more information is desired.

15. Safety (Betsy)

*Betsy spoke of a White Bear UU incident that highlights the need for a discussion on safety, especially in this volatile political year. Tabled due to time with need to consider ideas.

16. Adjourn-

*Approximately 4:00 (failure to note exact time). Next meeting will be on March 19, 2024 at 10:00 am at Northwoods Roastery in Lindstrom, MN.

Submitted for review and approval on Feb. 23, 2024 by Jean Adair, SCUUF Steering Committee Secretary.