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BUILDING OUR FUTURE

WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

STEP BY STEP

MARCH 27, 2014

ISSUE # 36

THE ARCHITECTS REPORT: A CONGREGATIONAL WORK SESSION, SUNDAY, MARCH 23

About one hundred congregants attended the meeting. **Tom Tingle, Andy Cronan and Kristin Baum**, of Guernsey Tingle, presented a review of what they've heard from Leadership and those attending the six smaller focus groups over the past few weeks. The topics of these previous meetings addressed the following:

- leadership vision
- education
- exterior spaces
- staff and support functions
- outreach
- sanctuary/worship/music
- social & food service functions

Those attending Sunday's meeting heard about the architects' process and their findings to date. There was a time for questions and input from the congregation. The information received will be used by the architects to refine and finalize a programming document. From this document an initial master plan concept will be developed. Options will be reviewed and discussed with the Design/Build Team, which has already started work to funnel all of these suggestions into a set of priorities.

Once the concepts, potential costs and implementation impacts have been refined, the architects will meet again with the the WUU congregation (Sunday, May 18, 12:30 pm) to present options. This will include floor and site plans, and a 3-D computer model.

The following is a sampling of individual, written comments in response to Tom's last question to the congregation on Sunday. (All the comments are available [Here](#))

Question: "What I'd Really Like to Say is..."

In Support...

- *I'm impressed with what you've done and I'm looking forward to the next step.*
- *I appreciate your 'good listening' to date and am hopeful about the end result: your prioritized list of what we can afford.*
- *I appreciate your attempts to understand our needs and desires and look forward to the next steps and finally the completion of this project.*

Comments on Specifics...

- *LFD is a first priority.*
- *Space for youth, please.*
- *We hired the right architectural team..AND Religious education and greeting space flow are crucial!*
- *Enhance the kitchen, but leave it where it is.*
- *Don't forget an efficient, usable kitchen. There are a number of large congregation events with meals--*

usually casual. The kitchen is lousy for setting up, and particularly cleanup.

- *The coffeehouse and/or conversation breakout area is one honkin' great idea. Let's do that and make it a priority. Also, thanks for your help!*
- *Space is limitless. So is Outreach. Outreach delivers UU principles internally and externally, and is the essence of WUU. How will GTA assure this outcome?*
- *Expand the Sanctuary as part of connecting it to the new spaces.*
- *Need to create small and large sacred space.*
- *Let's focus on the identified true priorities and not get spread too far--i.e., fire pits, trails to Clara Byrd Baker, the Maypole!*
- *Please use outdoor and parking area lighting that doesn't contribute to light pollution and is energy efficient (LED).*
- *At what point in the process does "budget" become a governing reality in the design?*

Some General Comments...

- *Keep holistic in mind, and natural.*
- *We should be more visible and accessible to the general public.*
- *Meet ADA everywhere, even with sidewalks.*

Some General Concerns...

- *What do you say to people who are afraid of this change?*
- *We need to phase the development plan to accommodate continued building use and resource availability.*

More comments, can be found [Here](#).

BUILDING OUR FUTURE TIMELINE

Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

Congregational Meetings: Shown in Blue

Steps beyond Phase 1 are contingent on results of Phase 1

2013

PHASE 1 EXPLORATION

- June Board charges Building our Future
- July 7 Kickoff Sunday
- July-Sept Visioning Circles
- Oct. 20 **Congregational Informational Meeting**
- Oct. 21 Evening Information Session
- Nov 17 **Congregational Meeting & Vote on proceeding through remainder of Phase I**
- Nov Prepare for architect selection process
- Dec Issue Request for Architectural Service Proposals

2014

- Jan Receive proposals, interview architects, recommend architect to board
- Feb Announce Architect Selection
- Feb Initiate architect/congregant focus meetings
- Mar **Congregational Work Session on Building Program** WE ARE HERE
- Apr Design Studies
- May **Presentation & Review of building options**
- June-Sept Fundraising Feasibility Study
- Sept **Determination of affordable building options to pursue -vote**

PHASE 2 FUNDRAISING

- Oct-Dec Capital Campaign commences
- Nov Architect proceeds with drawing of chosen options

2015

- January Capital Campaign concludes
- March **Final Determination of options to build - vote**
- April Bidding for construction
- May Awarding of construction contract

PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION

- June Begin Construction

2016

- April Building ready for occupancy

IT HAPPENS ONCE A GENERATION OR TWO: AFFIRMING & ENABLING OUR VISION, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

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