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BUILDING OUR FUTURE

WILLIAMSBURG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

STEP BY STEP

OCTOBER 29, 2013 ISSUE #20

A report on the comments received at the summer Visioning Circles was presented at two congregational meetings held October 20 & 21. This report is available online [Here](#) or in the Narthex.



In addition to words of appreciation for the quality and thoroughness of the the **Building Our Future Report**, the related discussions brought forth important questions and comments. Some of those are noted here:

- **The BOF Report seemed focused on the present. What do we want to become?**

Response: The Vision 2017, presented at the 2012 Annual Meeting, provides a blueprint for our 5 year plan. The Building our Future program is a direct result of this Vision. Many comments in our Visioning Circles spoke to the importance of matching our building needs to our vision and mission. Plans must incorporate present needs while ensuring that our vision is big enough to include future generations and those who have not yet discovered what WUU has to offer.

- **When will our current mortgages be paid off?**

Response: The UUA mortgage will be paid off at the end of next year. The second mortgage will be paid off in the spring of the following year.

- **When we have paid off the mortgages, could those currently obligated funds be transferred to the expansion process?**

Response: There is not enough in the current mortgage payments to cover a new expansion project, however, [those funds] could be of help.

- **Fund raising should include not just building costs but maintenance and operation, as well.**

Response: The architectural study will include estimates for costs of maintenance and operation. The financial feasibility study will determine what we can afford for maintenance and operation.

- **Can we afford this? We're getting older. Those who contributed in 1995 won't be here forever to pay again.**

Response: Currently, we do not know what "this" is. That is why it is important to complete the exploratory phase using consultants on architecture and finance to help us find the answer(s) to this important question.

- **Are there priorities to guide the architect?**

Response: Visioning Circle comments point to LFD, Narthex and larger meeting spaces as the highest priorities.

- **Were those who attended the Visioning Circles just the ones who wanted change and maybe those opposed stayed home?**

Response: Those who would prefer to stay in our current facilities were represented at the Visioning Circles.

- **We need to remember the importance of WUU to the community.**

Response: We must remember that our mission is the important priority. We are building for the next generation as well as our current congregation.

- **Have there been costs for the current work of the BOF committee?**

Response: Expenditures for current work (UUA consultant, refreshments for Visioning Circles, printing of wall posters & copies of BOF Report, etc.) have been paid for from WUU's Next Steps Restricted Fund, a fund established many years ago for projects such as this.

- **If the congregation votes "yes," on November 17, to the Board's recommendation to complete Phase 1 (see Timeline below), where will the estimated \$30,000 which is needed to hire the architect and complete a financial feasibility study, come from?**

Response: If we should vote in the affirmative on November 17, the Committee is confident that persons who decide to complete this phase will donate to this fund. This will not require expenditures from our operating budget and will not require a special fundraising campaign.

"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now."

...Chinese Proverb

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 Meeting: Present and Discuss Visioning Circle Results
Oct. 21	Evening: Present and Discuss Visioning Circle Results
Nov 17	Congregational Meeting: - WE ARE HERE Vote on Continuing with Phase 1
Dec	Architect Selection

2014

Jan-Mar	Preliminary architectural design options prepared
April	Congregational Meeting: Presentation & Review of building options
May-June	Fundraising Feasibility Study
July	Congregational Meeting: Determination of affordable building options to pursue -vote

PHASE 2 FUNDRAISING

July-Dec	Capital Campaign commences
October	Architect proceeds with drawing of chosen options

2015

February	Capital Campaign concludes
March	Congregational Meeting: Final Determination of options to build - vote
April	Bidding for construction
May	Awarding of construction contract

PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION

June	Begin Construction
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2016

April	Building ready for occupancy
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IT HAPPENS ONCE A GENERATION OR TWO: AFFIRMING & ENABLING OUR VISION, BUILDING OUR FUTURE

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