Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist Executive Board Meeting

Sunday, May 5, 2013

Board members present: Allen Cooke, Rachel Delbos, Wayne Moyer, David Neiman, Donna Stanford, Charles Tankersley, Larry Ventis, and Lola Warren (President). Building for the Future Committee members: Roger Guernsey, Linda Lane Hamilton, Les Solomon.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Lola Warren at 11:35 A.M.

Having just completed a Sunday service, a chalice lighting was omitted.

1. Consideration of purchase of property adjacent to church grounds.

The adjacent property to the west of the church is for sale. Discussion was opened to hear views of Board members on this issue. Three prominent options were listed: (1) Endorse purchase of the property; (2) Refuse purchase of the property; (3) Consider whether a consortium of members might have interest in purchasing the property. Representative comments included:

Allen suggested that the asking price was too high. Roger pointed out that not buying now does not preclude the possibility of buying it at a later time. Lola noted that when viewing the property, she was impressed with the interior of the structure. Allen asked who in the congregation had raised the matter, and it was noted that David Banks had expressed interest. After discussion of pros and cons of the purchase, Charles made the following motion: “I move that we accept the recommendation of the committee not to buy the property.” Allen seconded this motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of the Board.

2. Consultant’s contract for preparation for expansion of our physical facilities.

Les Solomon of the Building for the Future Committee reported that they had been in contact with UUA consultant, Bill Clontz, located in Alexandria, VA, and committee members were quite positively impressed with his grasp of the issues, his professionalism, and his potential to benefit WUU in its preparation for possible expansion of our physical facilities. Les has received a proposed contract in which Mr. Clontz has agreed to provide up to three days of consultation for a fee of $5,400.00. This is a fairly standard UUA contract for such services. The work contracted for would consist of guidance in how to approach the building process, prominently including generation of a plan which can be presented to the congregation, as well as consultation on constructive ways for presenting the plan and enlisting congregation endorsement and commitment. After discussion, including the funds currently available in the Next Steps program ($8,500.00), as well as some concerns for not moving too quickly, Allen made the following motion:

“I move that the Board approve review and signing of the contract which has been presented to the Building for the Future Committee, for the services of Bill Clontz, for the amount of $5,400.00. Rachel seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Larry Ventis

Secretary to the Board