**Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists**

**Board Meeting Minutes (Draft)**

**September 23, 2014**

**Fahs House**

**Present:** Donna Stanford, Jim Kent, Eva Burke, David Neiman, Larry Ventis, Wayne Moyers, Rachel Delbos, and Lola Warren, Board President, Jennifer Ryu (ex-officio).

**Guests:** Heather Scully (Process Check), Carolyn Greathouse, Catherine Laarhoven, Carolyn Wilson (Membership Co-Chairs), Roy Snider, Franz Gross.

**Opening:** Chalice Lighting (Letting Go by Sharon Saltzburg) followed by Check-in (What does the change of season mark for you?) were implemented by Eva Burke.

**Approval Agenda:**

Minutes of August 26, 2014

Wayne offered one correction to the August 26 minutes. Wayne moved that we approve the Consent items, Eva seconded, and the motion passed.

Lola noted that contracts had been drawn with AES Engineering and GTA.

Forthcoming events: A reminder announcement was made about the upcoming RE Workshop to be held at Temple Beth El beginning at 6:00 P.M. on Friday, October 3rd and continuing through Saturday.

Lola noted that Board members would be asked to serve as Visiting Stewards for the Capital Campaign.

**Discussion Agenda**

**Membership Team Work:** Carolyn Greathouse, Catherine Laarhoven, and Carolyn Wilson attended representing the Membership Team, and Carolyn Greathouse presented the Membership Team report to the Board. She described the updated Orientation Classes and indicated that the need for a commitment to stewardship was to be explained more fully. They then invited questions and suggestions from the Board.

**Outside Funding:** Roy Snyder and Franz Gross attended to discuss possible sources for outside funding. Roy provided a copy of his report, and they suggested that we need to seek outside funds from our current assets, e.g., with completion of our renovation it might be possible to sell or rent one or both houses currently owned by the church. Further, Roy emphasized O. P. M., other people’s money. He suggested that with the renovation there would be rentable space in the facility. A second emphasis was that of “content” assets. This refers to possibilities such as selling ad space in the Newsletter or Order of Service. It would also be feasible to create a store on our web site and possibly sell such things as UU jewelry or coffee and chocolate. CD’s of the choir performances might also earn some funds. Roy also suggested that the Board create a Special Committee on Income Generation.

Jim indicated that some people object to seeking funds other than pledges. Franz stated that we rent the sanctuary to the Church of God for $15,000 per year currently. Renting space is supplemental income and we should seek further information on the possibilities. Jim offered that we need 2 to 3 months of discussion as to what funds may feasibly be generated.

Lola asked whether we need a task force to address this issue, and if so, was there a motion?

Wayne moved “That the Board appoint a Task Force to investigate alternate income streams.” Dave seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

WUU members mentioned as possible participants in the Task Force included Vicki Hall, Susan Fournier, Ruth Hopkinson, Lisa Williams, Jessica O’Brien, and Scott Varney. Others may express interest as well. Lola indicated that she would call some of the congregation members named and see if they had interest.

**Space Naming/Gift Recognition/other BOF or Finance Issues:** At issue is the fact that through the Capital Campaign we will be seeking substantial commitments from our members, and we need a policy for recognition of such gifts. One option is Space Naming, or associating donor names with specific spaces in the new facilities, depending on their preference and the amount of the gift. A second option is that of listing contributors alphabetically on one or more designated donor walls. Dave indicated that the DBT has generated naming opportunities. It was suggested that we support the DBT and its special gifting options. Jennifer said that we already have gift recognition policies that may suffice. It was decided that existing policies should suffice, and no new action was taken.

**Internship Minister:** Jennifer registered concern about whether we should apply for an internship minister currently, given our pending financial obligations. After discussion this was left to Jennifer’s discretion.

**Process Check:** Heather Scully noted that we ran over, time wise. She observed that members were good about asking clarifying questions of the Membership Committee, and that compassionate points were raised about the meaning of membership. She further suggested that maybe the Board can solicit a lot of input about alternate ways to raise funds. She thought that Jennifer and Eva were good at trying to focus on issues. Finally, she perceived anxiety on the part of Board members regarding the need for additional money.

Lola adjourned the meeting at 9:18 P.M.

Minutes submitted by Board Secretary, Larry Ventis