

Unity Village Chapel Board Minutes
Annual Membership Meeting
March 19, 2017

The President of the Board, Anna Griesbach, called the meeting to order at 12:15 P. M. in the CommUnity Center after a post-service light lunch served by the Sisters of Myrtle. Ben Jamison led the pray-in. Anna recognized board members and read the meeting agenda.

Nominating Team and Board Member Candidates

Anna Griesbach reviewed the duties of the Nominating team and introduced the chair of the 2016 Nominating Team, Lynn Wybar, the elected member from the congregation. Also on the Nominating Team was BOT President, Anna Griesbach, John Fry, Lynn Wybar, and Rev. Erin McCabe. Lynn introduced the list of candidates: Carol Anderson, and Ben Jamison. Board Secretary Ronna Gjesfeld read the specific wording from Bylaws certifying that both candidates met the requirements for Board membership as specified in the Bylaws and have been recommended for candidacy by the Unity Village Chapel Nominating Team. President Anna Griesbach requested to vote by acclamation since there are two candidates to fill two Board positions. Each candidate was individually elected to the Board by acclamation.

Approval of 2016 Membership Meeting Minutes

As prescribed in the Bylaws, the minutes of last year's Annual Membership Meeting need to be approved by those members present at this year's meeting. Each member was given a copy of the minutes in the meeting notification which was either emailed or sent via traditional posted mail. Secretary Ronna Gjesfeld requested a motion to waive the reading of the minutes, Tim Mabbott moved to approve the minutes, Michael Kinslow seconded.

Election of Congregational Nominating Team Member and Alternate

Anna Griesbach announced that it was time to elect the congregational member of the Nominating Team and an Alternate Nominating Team Member (to serve if the occasion arises that the Nominating Team Member cannot serve). The following people were nominated and accepted the nominations: Ronna Gjesfeld nominated Jodi Voss and the nomination was seconded by Debbie Schenk, John Fry nominated Glenda Shelley, Ben Jamison seconded. Anna declared nominations closed. The candidates left the room and the votes were taken by a show of orange cards. The candidates were asked to return whereby Anna Griesbach announced that Jodi Voss was elected as Nominating Team Member and Glenda Shelley was elected as alternate. Anna Griesbach thanked Jodi and Glenda for their willingness to serve.

Treasurer's Report

Drayton Riley reported the following: Attendance: 2014 average 198, 2015—192, 2016—192 a variance of 3% (figures also include special service). So far this year through last Sunday, 169 and that is consistent with the first quarter of any year. Sunday offerings money collected at Offertory time & counted on Sunday has declined over last 3 years. This includes all Sundays and Special Services (like Christmas Eve). In 2014 we received \$195,700, 2015—\$191,700 and 2016—\$153,350 (a variance of 22%). Alternative methods of giving have increased. PayPal Online, PayPal Live Streamers, Easy Giving or Auto Giving (includes the Square), Non Sunday Offering, also End of Year Campaign. In 2014 PayPal increased from \$11,000 in 2014 to \$27,000 in 2016, Easy Giving from \$13,000 to \$19,500 in 2016, the Square \$1,500, to \$10,600 in 2016, Non Sunday offerings (office, mail, etc.) \$32,800 to \$32,800 in 2016. In 2014 these alternative giving options were 18% (43.8K) of total offering, in 2016 38% (97K) of total offerings.

If given optional ways to give/tithe people will use them.

It is likely that if those optional ways to give/tithe were not provided, many of those funds would not have been received. So it is very important for us to make those options available and access to them as easy as possible.

The characteristics of those we serve (demographics) is changing. In 2000 when I came here about 75% of the congregation were “baby boomers”. That has been transitioning and I believe will continue to at a more accelerated rate. It is a credit to your Board and Minister that there was a recognition that these giving options would be necessary.

How much money is in the bank? End of year 2015 \$127,050 totaled the Reserve & Operating accounts, end of year 2016—\$127,446, and \$125,444 at the end of Feb 2017 (no Sunday service January 15). The \$100,000 in the Reserve account is for “what if” not for normal expenses. Last January we were blessed with a 10K bequest. Bequests and large gifts are a part of ministry and we cannot budget for them. This bequest was what made us have essentially a breakeven year last year.

Budget: BOT approved the 2017 Budget in December of last year. Expenses of \$317,221. Income of \$318,900. We have always come in under budget in spending. We are being responsible with our spending. To make budget we need to generate \$6133 per week. Our cash on hand represents 4.7 months of our budgeted expenses.

Fundraising: 2016: \$11,758 was raised, primarily through Fall Fest fall and a few others. \$9,600 was raised in the past two years. Fundraising is laid on the backs of the congregants: what can we do for fundraising possibilities outside of our congregants? The Connie Dover Concert was sold out! According to John Fry, 2 out of 3 attendees were not congregants.

These are the trends we want to see. This year we have budgeted \$20,000 for fundraising with an eye towards creating an event that will reach out for resources beyond our congregation. We already reach out to you to support all of our events and our year end giving campaign and we as a Board recognize this.

Auto Giving (Easy Giving, Recurring Giving) is a difference maker. I invite you to sign up for Auto Giving. It's a reliable way to manage your offerings and tithes. It provides the assurance that your committed giving and tithing is fulfilled whether or not you can attend Sunday services. It provides UVC a more consistent flow of proceeds that will not be interrupted by...

- how many Sundays there are each month,
- inclement weather that causes cancelations
- seasonal variances in attendance

The Board has a goal to increase auto giving, so you're going to continue to hear about this. And that's because this is such a powerful tool that works for the benefit of everyone involved.

President's Report

Anna expressed gratitude to: The Sisters of Myrtle for their contribution, Rev. Marianne Jones; The Men of Unity; YFM; Joe Cartright and the Music team; Diane Wilkes; John Fry and Debbie Schenk; everybody who provides fellowship: Lynn Wybar, MaryLou Cupp, Joan Mellor, class leaders and helpers, Rev. Erin McCabe, and S. A. M., CD's—Vernon and Carol Anderson. We are so truly blessed at UVC, everyone is the fabric of who we are. Thank you for your time and service!

What is on the horizon? Changes. What outlook are we going to have? Jacquie Lenati has moved onto other endeavors, but she is forever woven in the the fabric of UVC: We wish her well. Three dynamic visions of light are retiring at different times: Joan Mellor, MaryEllen Davis, and Rev. Marianne Jones, We will continue to offer them our love and support as they move forward into the new adventures of light guided by spirit.

Anna relayed Charles Fillmore's 'not making payroll' story.

We have exciting opportunities with these changes to grow and prosper, UVC is poised to become the flagship ministry of the movement. Do not look at change as an adversary, but an avenue as a opportunity to prosper. What is part of the Divine idea? We have a Human Resource management team to reorganize the job descriptions, someone who is leading that team is Cheri Jamison! Gregory Stahr that bright light! Gregory is stepping in as interim of Director of Operations

This is a journey of faith, prayer and meditation, better taken with friends. I hope that each of you capture the essence of them, and see the light they are meant to be.

Assignment: 'I' 'AM' 'CALLED' From Charles Fillmore: "Every man who accomplished things sees first in his mind what he wishes to do puts away all doubt, no different how small or big that thing you want to do may be, if you have an unlimited confidence to do it, you do it."

Minister's Report

Rev. Erin said that during her tenure, she has worked with three BOT presidents: Diane Wilks, Drayton Riley and now Anna Griesbach, thank you! She acknowledged an amazing team: Joan Mellor, MaryEllen Davis, Rev. Marianne Jones. All those things no one has seen you do are serving the source of your being.

We are all the magnet for what is to emerge next; we hold the magnet in our minds to create that consciousness. Do we get it? Do you get it that we are at the headquarters of the Unity movement, we are the ministry, we are the outreach of the entire Unity movement, (Charles' and Myrtle's feet walked here), the one ministry that all eyes are on. For this next phase, UWM is moving onto grounds this year, we have the trinities: UWH, UWM, and UVC. Can you feel that? Step into that truth, put yourselves into that picture. We hold the space and know that people will know that it will take all of us. We are among greatness. Rev. Erin will send an email instead of voicing her report to the congregants. This is a community experience, by the caliber of our consciousness, we will multiply. Studies on ministry say most ministers leave after 5 years, ministries that grow keep their ministers 12-18 years. When vibrational field is created, after 7 years you enter into a whole other realm. We are ready to fly into the next era. Namaste.

Raffle

Winners of a free raffle were announced. Three names were drawn 1) Carol Anderson chose T-shirt, Sam Metzler chose meditating CD, and Ronita Thomas chose the meditating goat.

Adjournment

Rev. Marianne closed with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 1:17 P. M.

Minutes transcribed by Ronna Gjesfjeld, Secretary