

FUS Board Meeting Agenda March 18, 2009

Opening - Emily Cusic, reading by Marge Percy

Check In around the table

Nominations Update - Jane Richardson:

Jane gave us an update on the current slate for Nominations. The slate is nearly complete; suggesting the effort of leadership to plan succession is going well. See handout dated 3/18/2009.

Annual Campaign Update – Betsy David and Marilee Wertlake

Betsy and Marilee gave us a current update on the status of the annual campaign. 460 pledges have been received totaling \$760,000 compared to a similar year of 2006 at which time we had received 370 pledges totaling \$552,000, hoping to get 850-900 pledge units to get \$1.1million total. Brian estimates we are running 2-3% above last year's pace. Cathi W-S is personally calling all new members who have not pledged. Brian expressed his appreciation for the campaign team's impressive work to date.

Facilities Update – Susan Koenig and Laurie Joiner

Susan and Laurie presented highlights of current status of Preservation, the New Addition, and the Isom House: The testing of stain and sealers continues on samples of the floors. The question was raised about the timeline to recondition the floors and this is currently being considered by those investigating. The HVAC system warranty is likely to be extended due to the interventions that have been necessary and the floors will also likely warrant an extended warranty. Decibel readings will be taken to see if the interfering sounds can be further improved. Findorff reports that the handicapped toilets are problematic and may need to be replaced.

Isom House is not accessible for those with disabilities. It currently has flooding in the basement. The annual water problem may be contributed to this year because there aren't gutters yet installed as we are waiting for a decision about siding. The research on building code is not yet complete in regard to fire code requirements.

Next year RE needs two sections of COA perhaps offered at 9 and at 11 to be able to use space in the main building as well as the Isom House and this should be sufficient. There is some consideration of moving some of these older courses to Wednesday evening (eg. COA, MBS).

Can we explore whether there may be space available in the neighboring building that we may choose to use instead of continuing to invest resources in the Isom House? To make it useable and adequate classroom space we would like to have it accommodate two classrooms upstairs and two on the main floor. Initially we thought it might be approximately \$180,000 to bring it to this level of usefulness. Clearly, tearing down and rebuilding would be significantly more costly and potentially problematic. In the next 3-4 years we need 3 more classrooms at 9am. A more precise projection from RE was requested for the May meeting. A survey may also be considered.

Wanda Hurr's Request for Congregational Sponsorship – Laurie Joiner

Wanda Hurr, a member of FUS, is requesting that the congregation sponsor her ministerial fellowship. Several documents were provided to the board that give additional information about Wanda. She will be in Madison and available to meet with the board in May. Michael explained that approximately 10 years ago the UUA asked congregation to sponsor new ministers to insure they have a substantial and ongoing affiliation with a particular congregation. This endorsement implies our congregation believes the individual would make a positive contribution to ministry. We have sponsored several individuals in the past. Questions were brainstormed and Laurie will compile them.

Emily Melcher's Request for Ordination – L. Joiner

Emily has requested that her ordination as a UU Minister be at FUS. We will wait for the outcome of the annual campaign to respond to her request. Costs may include travel expenses, reception, printing of invitations/programs, etc.

Annual Leadership Calendar – Susan Koenig

Susan has put together a calendar for all leaders that contains important dates through 2009-10. See handout "FUS Leadership Calendar 2009-2010" Please let Susan know if you see any inconsistencies.

Please add RE speaker: Sally Patton from MA, welcoming children with special needs on October 23, 2009, leadership presentation in the evening.

Board Participation in Cabaret – Decision

In the past, the Board has offered something to be auctioned off at Cabaret. A progressive dinner/appetizers on the property was suggested: Isom House, Historic Meeting House, music suites, courtyard, etc. Saturday, July 11th was suggested.

Announcements/other:

Laurie reminded the board of the Dane County United events in regard to Public Education in the Madison Schools.

Kathy asked about those attending GA, several staff and members were named. Forms for registration and scholarships will be available on Sunday.

The UUA candidates will be here or represented on Sunday, April 26th.

Last month's minutes were unanimously approved with one correction which was previously sent to Tom.

Closing – Emily Cusic, reading by Robert Frost