

## UUSMC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2019

Attendees: Helen Springer, Stephen Petersen, Ram Ray, Judy Pappenhagen, Greg Pelley, Melissa Bryson

1. Reading on Joy Greg

2. 30th Birthday Party All

Attendance was 75-80 people, a good range of founders and newer members. Event went very smoothly, lots of food, well organized. Idea was shared that we would have benefitted from a little more lead time to track down founders and long-term members. What was the challenge in finding them? The task was larger than anticipated to ensure communication is made, especially in instances where email or mailing address is no longer valid. Discussion around event activity of trivia at tables divided up by birthday month- was simple, crowd sourced, and gave a positive experience for meeting new people and creating common ground.

3. Service Auction Helen

Item request has been made to start gathering auction items. Posters have been ordered. Publicity will be handled by Helen. Kick off will be March 31st with an announcement during service and ticket sales immediately after and then each Sunday after service until the event. Jamie will be helping pick up extra tables and then bring them to be joined by a few others to set up. Diane is on top of the food. There was left over beer and wine from the 30th birthday party so that has been saved Music will be by the Clarion Brass to play themed music. Decorating committee will set up the morning of so it is all finished well ahead of event. There are four life sized cut outs that can be auctioned off at the end. Childcare is taken care of. Andy is doing the auctioning, David will be the spotter. There are people assigned to data management. Set up and clean-up will be a group effort. Problem- we don't have anyone to handle sound- Greg says that it will be figured out. Silent auction items will be given to Steve Selph and he will either take things home or put in office. Curation of these items will be handled by Helen and Steve to encourage best quality items for event. Tickets will be \$15 prior to event, and \$20 at the door. Money management, like petty cash for night of and quick collection of tickets sold after services on Sunday, will be worked out with Debbie. Cost of event runs around \$3,000, gross averages \$20,000. There is the option for tickets to be bought online, Greg will work to bring this option to fruition. The room will be set up for 120, but we can go up to 130 if needed. Helen and John will be on vacation until two weeks before, but no worries, it will all get done!

4. Chalice Circles Helen

Keep asking for people to join! There are vacancies and they are just too good to have spots open. Currently they are all women or all men, but this is not a set in stone group design. Keep talking about it and see what we can do to get new membership to chalice circles.

## 5. Outreach

Stephen

Create a 30th anniversary banner to put up on the stand near the street to advertise our longevity and community. Idea of a car magnet was also followed through on with a design based off of our banner words including our name and website. It is so important for us to share with others our commitment to each other and to the church. Discussion was had about the original sign for the church and how it is aging and might be looked at for potential improvement. This is often the first thing that new or potential members see representing us, so how do we make sure we appear with our best face forward. Comments made about a new church going up near The Well store, and how it is being designed deliberately visible. This is just something we should be cognizant of- how do we look our best? What is the theme we are looking to share with people who don't know who we are- you are ALL welcome here. Two main objectives decided on 1. Car magnets that will be for current members to enjoy and create outreach 2. Start making plans for a new sign for new members to see from the road.

## 6. Minster's Report

Greg

There are two memorial services coming up. The prayer wall has returned and will be there until Easter. We have a lot of rental activity- yay! The staff, particularly Debbie, has been working very hard so that everything can happen as it should. Thank you, Debbie!

## 7. Treasurers Report

Judy

Endowment and Cottage Meetings- conversations need to be had offline before we can discuss as a board. A discussion needs to be had on restricted funds, and we will have that discussion at a later meeting. We need to discuss when and how money is accepted to be made into restricted funds as a board.

## 8. Kaleidoscope request

All

A concert series was put on and money was collected. The idea was that the money would fund the next program. It was a great success, but then the decision was made not to continue the event. This money collected, \$1880, was split and donated to The Choir School of Delaware (\$1000) and the Delaware Institute for the Arts in Education (\$880) by the Music Committee. This closes out the account for the Kaleidoscope series.

## 9. Finance Report

Judy

The deficit still exists, and what happens if we can't find a reasonable solution in time. We have made some great investments, and we need to create a plan if our investments are not proving financially advantageous or sustainable. Discussion was had about the budget and the deficit. We need to do outreach to encourage new membership, but we cannot rely on this as a lifesaving strategy. There is some room to create additional giving opportunities for our members and friends. Plan is to bring up need at annual meeting because people are already expecting to talk about money. Discussion to have a meeting specifically to talk about this strategy including the finance committee to create a plan that we can all buy into and agree to

accomplish. Greg will reach out to regional consultants to get a fresh perspective about our situation and the best plan to create.

10. Adjourn and Closing Reading

Greg

Respectfully Submitted, Melissa Bryson, Secretary