



UUFCO NEW HOME STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Leslie Koc (uufconewhome@gmail.com)

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. “

~ Henry Ford

The following is a brief update on the progress of the New Home Project (NHP) as of mid January when this update is submitted for the newsletter. To read any news that is more current, check the weekly ACE and the updates in the New Home section of the UUFCO website.

The Land: The fire abatement program began as the ground froze in January. Through the involvement of the Land & Site Committee, the Outdoor Workgroup and a number of UUFCO expert volunteers, care and attention was given to reducing the possibility of wildfire on our land and limiting ground disturbance.

The Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Expansion public hearing will have taken place by the time you read this update. We are hoping for a positive recommendation of both the county and the city. As a reminder, the reason for the application is to request the land in the upper tax lot be included in the UGB to allow access to City water and sewer system.

Design: We are in the middle of the schematic phase of the design of our new home. In December we agreed on a general site plan. It is still being tweaked and will continue to be refined through the process. You can see it posted on the display board and the website. On January 14 the Design Committee had an all-day workshop with our architect design team from THA to work on preliminary spatial organization, massing options, and other design concepts. We also considered materials and sustainable strategies related to form. We explored sanctuary design: quality of light, how the shape affects acoustics, and how much connection to the landscape is desirable. The architects are very conscious about taking inspiration from Central Oregon and assuring that our building is suitable to conditions here and that it takes advantage of local resources, including solar.

They led us through many diagrams illustrating various concepts and asked for our feedback at each stage. Alex, Melissa, Dave, Leslie, and our owner’s rep were part of that process. The rest of the Steering Committee and the Board joined us in the afternoon for a summary and to make sure we are on track. Our next step is to work on the floor plan. This will be ready for your review and feedback at an all-congregation meeting with the architects on Saturday, February 16, 10 to noon, at the Old Stone. Please plan to come! There’s a notebook on the display table on Sunday mornings that has printouts of all the presentations that THA has done so far. You are welcome to thumb through them and to ask a member of the Design Committee to explain where we are in the process. In addition to the February 16 meeting, be sure to save Saturday, March 16, for an even more important meeting when the contractors will have costed out our project and we will all have the opportunity to consider our various options.

Capital Campaign: Current information about the Capital Campaign is covered by Don Hartsough in another article in this newsletter.

Construction: The first formal activity for Kirby Nagelhout Construction Company (KNCC) will be in mid February when they join THA in costing the construction project.

Timeline: The timing of site preparation and ground breaking is dependent on the successful approval of the UGB Expansion and the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Currently we are expecting site preparation to begin in the summer and groundbreaking in the late summer or early fall. More specific details will follow as each of the UGB and CUP activities progress. Stay tuned.

Save The Date: Saturday, February 16 and March 16, 10 am to noon. These are all-congregation meetings with the architects for sharing progress and getting your feedback. Your attendance and participation will be important so mark your calendar for these dates and times. We'll be meeting in Old Stone and child card will be provided. Read future ACE notices for more specific details.

Communications: You can stay current with the NHP activities in one or all of these ways: 1) the New Home display board at Sunday service, 2) on the public page of the UUFCO website (under the "About Us" tab), 3) in the members' area of the UUFCO website, 4) in All Congregation Emails (ACE) when we have date sensitive information to share and 5) by asking someone at Sunday service with a purple ribbon attached to their name tag. We will also have a Q&A opportunity on Sunday, February 17 and March 17, following the Saturday all-congregation meetings.

New Home Project Steering Committee: Dale Clark, Design Committee; John Coltman, Finance Committee; Don Hartsough, Capital Campaign Committee; Melissa Hochschild, Communications Advisor; Jerrie Jones, Secretary and Website Update Coordinator; Leslie Koc, Chair; Dave MacGurn, Land & Site Committee; Vernon Threlkeld, Construction & Technical Advisory Committee

If you've been thinking about getting involved, now is the time to step forward. Approach any of the Steering Committee (SC) members and let us know where you have experience, energy and interest. We'd appreciate hearing from you.