

UUFCO Board Meeting

Date: September 21, 2023

Location: Large Conference Room at UUFCO, Zoom

Attending Members: John McKee, Heather McNeil, Robert Hedeem, Grace Kennedy, Mark Hickman, Jaz Halberstadt, Laura Voisinet, and Scott Rudolph

Called to Order: 5:00pm

Opening Business

The Board: Laura Voisinet (past president, liaison to Auction and Policy Review), John McKee (president), Heather McNeil (vice president, liaison to stewardship), Grace Kennedy (at-large, liaison to personnel), Robert Hedeem (at-large, liaison to facilities), Mark Hickman (treasurer, liaison to finance), and Jazlyn Halberstadt (secretary, liaison to endowment)

Consent of Agenda: Approved

Approval of August Minutes: Hearing no objections, the minutes from the August meeting were approved by John.

Committee Reports

Finance Report: Fletcher and Mark are still working on changing signatures for several finance accounts. There was a discussion on paying back (UUFCO paying back ourselves from the general fund) the building fund for the solar cost with an interest rate of 3%. AV bids came in and will be discussed later. The Finance committee is giving some background to the stewardship committee on pledge history. Final end-of-year fiscal review is still in-process.

Personnel Report: No new updates

Facilities/Building/Grounds Report: Nothing besides the solar and AV update, which will be discussed below.

Endowment Report: Next quarterly meeting is in October, Don Hartsough has a report prepared and met with Jaz this week, but Jaz is waiting until the entire committee meets in October before sharing that report with the board.

Stewardship Report: No new updates

Auction Report: Auction is coming-up. It will be all online through Auctria. There is an upcoming concert on Friday October 6th 6-8pm at UUFCO to kick-off the auction!

Policy Review Report: There are a few large policy reviews that are upcoming, but nothing for today.

Minister's Report: Sabbatical came to a conclusion. Reverend Scott is happy to return, but things were handled well while he was away. It was a transformative experience that was long overdue. Reverend Scott is grateful and grounded in his return. Reverend Scott is excited to share more from his work with UU congregations in the Philippines. A more formal presentation will be coming about the possibility of a partner church.

Updates

Finance Hub Update: A recommendation will be made at the October board meeting.

Solar Project Update: The celebration has been passed on to Chela. The panels are here and they work, but they are not currently on. There are two upcoming inspections: a structural inspection early next week, and some time after will be an electrical inspection. It is estimated that in about two weeks we'll be ready to turn them on. 45 kwatts were generated on the test!

AV Update: The original bids were very high (100,000+), but these were complete AV updates. The new proposal is for a new projector at the front of the sanctuary, choral and sanctuary

microphone solutions, and a wireless upgrade to replace 2 lavalier and 2 wireless mics. This would come from the general fund. Additionally, work will be done to repair several buggy systems, and add a built-in location for a 2nd camera. These fixes will come from the AV operating budget. Estimated time-line for completing this work is TBD. Mark proposes to spend up to 24,000 from the building reserve fund for these upgrades and fixes. Heather seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously.

AV Systems investments recommended for UUFCCO in 22-23 fy			
solution	cost	new capability?	why is this recommended, how do we benefit?
New Projector in Sanctuary Front	\$12,000	yes	Brighter, truer color and quieter projector will make for better experience in Sanctuary, save appx 40 hours/year of Leora slide rework, allow addition of choral + ambient mic's without excess projector noise being picked up
Choral and sanctuary Mic solutions	\$6,686	yes	In sanctuary sound experience will be improved, but largest improvement will be for zoom or recorded event sound, where current solutions are completely inadequate for choir loft and audience pickup
Wireless upgrade - replace 2 lavalier's and 2 wireless mic's	\$4,000	no	includes ~\$400 for programming
Total of three solutions above	\$22,686		Upgrades to capabilities will improve both our live and online services and events
estimate of added freight and taxes	~\$750		
Building Reserve Fund spending proposed	\$24,000		

AV work to be done within AV OP Budget			
Repair various buggy systems (consistent controls, add passwords to panels, fix HDCP issues with Mac's, fix Linus Pauling Aux input, sound board input cleanup and relabeling)	\$1,140	no	part of ongoing maintainance, fund from \$6k AV budget
Add built-in location for 2nd camera	\$2,385	yes	Avoids risk to damaging 2nd camera, and removes tripping risk with free cables

Safety in Places of Worship: There is a “Houses of Worship” security guide available for us to use as a reflection and starting point. The following are considered the most important steps in safety preparation: understand risk, understand space, prepare and plan, train greeters, pursue grants, report threats. Find your state administration to help (Department of Homeland Security). Apply for grants to pay for bullet proof sheets on our front windows. Robin Johnson has volunteered to help write grants. Mark Steinberg has volunteered to help create a plan. John will reach-out to Mark Steinberg to create a small group to work on this planning. Heather has volunteered to be part of this small group.

Additional Discussions

Gratitude and Appreciation Task Force: Heather moves to establish a task force with the goal of identifying the arenas, or categories, of who to thank, as well as creating a process for showing gratitude and appreciation. Once the task force completes this goal they will recommend how it carries on in the future. Bob seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously.

Follow-up on Board Retreat: Our Love Impacts Lives can be used by teams, committees, and individuals to help solidify identity and keep all of us working toward a shared vision and goal. We will be looking to produce a document on showing how our love impacts lives, both staff and the board will be working on this project/document. It will not only help the community and visitors understand who we are, but also help solidify our own congregational identity.

Upcoming

Future agenda items:

Next meeting: October 19th, 2023 5-7pm