

**Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF)
Board of Directors Meeting
October 23-25, 2014**

MINUTES

Present: Alison Miller (chair), Rebecca Scott, Ken Gross, Sharon Blevins, Charles Du Mond, Adam Gerhardstein, Brad Greeley, Jinnah Hosein, Arif Mamdani Staff: Meg Riley, Lorraine Dennis

1. Worship and check in – All
2. Minutes – March 2014

1. Motion – To approve the Minutes of Board Meeting in March 2014. (Brad/Charles)

3. Staff Reports (Meg and Lorraine)
 1. Meg reported that we have 8 learning fellows this fall – Elizabeth Bukey (worship), Bob LaVallee (worship & military ministry), Kari Kopnick (family ministry), Rev. Jorge Espinel (latino ministry), Mandy Goheen (prison ministry), Scott Youmans (technology/worship), Jordinn Nelson Long (pastoral ministries/Quest), Rev. Susan Maginn (worship) . Five of these fellows plan to stay for 2 years
 2. Meg is taking a class with the UUMA called Entrepreneurial Ministry, a 2-year commitment
 3. We have transitioned to Adobe Connect for our worship platform. We are now able to broadcast to mobile devices. Adobe is a meeting space platform, but seems to be working for us.
 4. We will offer a vigil when the grand jury decision is announced regarding the Ferguson MO shooting. Vigil will happen on Google in the Air.
 5. Lorraine reported that Mandy Goheen is quickly learning the Prison Ministry. She and Patty are enjoying working together. Mandy position was funded by the Faithify Campaign we did last summer.
 6. Adam reported on his work regarding Fair Compensation for the CLF staff. Lorraine will send the report to Board members.
4. Engagement Report (Shawna Foster)
 1. Shawna shared an engagement report that showed our participation in worship, which is somewhat lower than last year. We will be building that now that we can welcome mobile devices. Shawna is working to encourage growth in all program areas by using social media. We will probably have to start paying Facebook to get more engagement.
5. Web Tour (Terri Burnor and Scott Youmans)

1. Terri and Scott gave a tour of the new version of the QuestForMeaning.org website, which we plan to launch on November 1st. This site will have no jargon, especially in the navigation. Our content will be more accessible and organized in new ways. After the launch, we hope to optimize our social media, communication and marketing. Terri and Scott will be training staff on the new website and new techniques. We also hope to upgrade our hosting plan this year. Board members were very grateful to Terri and Scott for their work on the site.
6. A Zoom visit from the Learning Fellows
 1. The Learning Fellows joined the meeting via Zoom and each spoke about what they are doing at the CLF and how they see their work here relating to their work in congregations. Several Board members spoke about how inspiring it was to hear about their activities.
7. Lorraine's Departure – All
 1. There was much discussion about Lorraine's planned retirement on August 31, 2015. The Board recommended that the new Executive Director be based in Boston since the relationships with UUA staff are so important to the CLF. The Board suggests that Meg and Lorraine look at where the CLF wants to be in 5 years and hire someone who can work with Meg to get the CLF there. Questions to consider: Staff configuration? What will we look like in 3 years? In 5 years? What is our vision for 3-5 years? What does sustainability look like? What skills benefit from rotation? What skills need to be in the permanent staff?
 2. Meg will convene a small group of board members to consider the staffing structure. They will consider and recommend a ED job description. What is the transition plan? Should the new ED and Lorraine overlap? It will be helpful to map out relationships with UUA staff, too. The small group will discuss the staffing plan and a timeline.
8. Fundraising
 1. Umbrella campaign-Meg asked for a discussion about whether the CLF should continue to participate in the umbrella campaign. Some organizations in the group are not sure they want to continue. The Board decided that we should stay involved since communication about the campaign will help the CLF.
 2. We have Capital pledges of \$270,000, with \$72,500 paid. We will continue to ask for pledges since the public phase of the campaign will launch at GA 2015 in Portland OR.
 3. Lena hasn't had time to do much to revise our membership model since she has been learning our database and managing all the solicitations for annual giving, both direct mail and social media.
 4. Brad suggested that, in the public phase of the campaign we use a model that invites CLF annual donors of \$250 to raise their gifts to \$500. For these smaller gifts, using this method could be very effective.

5. Lena has created a solicitation plan that includes every touchpoint in our fundraising communications. These include direct mail, email, social media. With this schedule and help from the social media staff, we hope to enhance our year-end fundraising.
9. Collaboration with 1st Unitarian in Portland OR
 1. Meg has been in conversation with Bill Sinkford and his staff at 1st Unitarian and hopes to visit them soon to discuss some collaboration with worship.

Recess Meeting until Saturday Morning at 9:00AM

Saturday, 9:00AM, Reconvene the meeting

10. Financial Reports – Ken and Lorraine
 1. The operating statement shows that Contributions is off budget at the end of September by \$4,670, though overall the net shows that we are \$2,929 better than budget.
 2. Adam will join the finance committee.
 3. Lorraine presented the 2015 proposed budget and the board decided to do a preliminary vote to pass the budget and to hold a meeting in November or after January 1st to adjust for the year end numbers and pass a final budget. Lorraine will schedule a teleconference in Jan/Feb for the budget finalization.
Motion: To approve the preliminary 2015 budget (Brad/Arif) Passed.
 4. Ken reported that the investments crept up over \$2 million as of Sept, 30, 2014.
 5. Rebecca conducted the Board Solicitation for 2015 Annual Gifts. Everyone participated.
11. Nominating Brainstorming
 1. Adam and Arif will run again in 2015 for their second 3-year terms.
 2. Ken Gross will be leaving the Board after June 2015.
 3. Brad Greeley will leave the Board in June 2015.
 4. Lorraine will send Nominating Terms listing to the Board
 5. Lorraine will update the bylaw and Board of Director pages on CLFUU.org.
 6. Needs for new board members
 - i. Knowledge of the movement and ministers
 - ii. Connection to the UUA/maybe a former UUA Trustee?
 - iii. International?
 - iv. Some potential Board members
 1. Ashley Horen*
 2. Rev. Joanna Fontaine Crawford*
 3. Rev. Gary Smith*
 4. Rev. Harold Babcock
 5. Rev. Ken Belden

6. Rev. Lindi Ramsden
7. Someone from 1st U – Portland OR?
8. Or from River Road in Maryland?
9. Gabrielle Farrell in D.C.
10. Louise Green in D. C.
11. Bunny Hodas
12. Todd and Lorella Hess
13. Ken Carpenter

Noon - Adjourn meeting and closing worship