

Agenda USCL Leadership Council & Board of Trustees

Meeting July 26th, 2021

6:30 pm Zoom On-Line Meeting Agenda

Meeting ID: 177 417 886 Passcode: 601744 Board

Members: Dan Maynard, Kathleen Assiff, Casey Miller, Jane Cloos, Nancy Cody, Lee Nelson Sharon Ketchum (non-voting)

Team Leaders: Jerry Podany (Admin and Project Management) , Jeff English (Celebration) Building Task Team Leaders: Sue Winklestern (Design), Nanette Podany (Kitchen), Jerry Podany (Project Management).

Special Guest: Karen Starz

1. **Call meeting to order: Pray in: **By Dan****
2. **Reaffirm mission and vision statements**

Mission: Spiritual awakening to our Oneness with God, with each other and with all creation.

Vision: A world powerfully transformed through a growing movement of shared spiritual awakening.

3. **Approval of minutes from last meeting June 28th 2021**

4. **Approval of Agenda:**

5. Discussion on what to do when accusation of inappropriate behavior is brought to the board by a congregant.

Nancy Cody introduced the topic and why she asked Karen Starz to join us for the discussion. It was viewed as a learning opportunity to practice NVC. Karen facilitated the conversation. Permission was given to record the meeting. Dan Maynard provided information about this topic. 7 years ago, a man (Eli) was accused of inappropriate touching of women's breasts. According to Dan, he was allowed to continue to come to services but was not allowed to be an usher or be in any other roles. He was told not to hug women and was asked to sign an agreement. No one knows if he did. He has not been back to services until coming to the consecration on June 20, 2021. Christine Clements saw him and sent an email to all of the Board members, with her concern. Jane Cloos added her own personal first hand

experience with Eli and shared that she had told the minister (Kent) at the time and felt that he had dealt with the issue.

We talked about the way that we handled it this time – leaving it up to Dan to say something to Eli, which was done. Eli left and shared with Jerry Podany that he did not plan to return.

Karen suggested that we develop a practice: i.e What is our practice for handling issues like this?

She suggested:

- 1) Decide and know who will take the complaint
- 2) Decide as a group who is going to talk to the person
- 3) She suggested that we have a discussion with the person about how s/he can be supported so behavior stops or changes. She suggested that we include all people in the circle to have a discussion i.e “When you do this, I feel hurt, offended etc. Share feelings.

Karen suggested that we slow down and meet as a group before deciding on a course of action.

She then asked all of the board members and team leaders present to reflect our feelings and thoughts about the situation. After each of us shared, she reflected back what she heard us say.

She encouraged us not to default to roles to deal with an issue. She suggested instead to select a person who has the most connection.

Karen also encouraged us not to define a situation/problem as “Good or Bad”

What is our “practice”?

What is the responsibility to our community?

What is our responsibility to the person/people involved?

She then asked Nancy to summarize our discussion – We need to meet as a group as we move forward and develop our “practice”

It was decided that Kathy would respond to Christine Clements. She will send the email to Karen and the board and ask for feedback before sending it the Christine.

6. Discussion on how we as a board are handling the business of the church in Reverend Sharon’s, absence

Reverend Sharon suggested that a team be developed – Director of Music, Office Manager, and one board member. The board would prefer that all of the board members and Team leaders be involved in the discussion and decision.

7. Treasurer's Report (Jane Cloos) See attached

We were given handouts to look at. Jane summarized by saying that we currently are not making enough to cover our current monthly expenses. She believes that we have enough to cover the remaining building update requirements but will clarify with Jessica and Reverend Sharon.

Ministry Teams reports:

8. Project Team (Jerry Podany)

i. Sign status

1. We received permit to put sign on other side of driveway. Jerry is contacting Hager Fox to get a price estimate for the new site.

ii. Fire alarm status

Need the 2nd phone installed but should be done next week. There are a few minor things that need to be done

iii. Approval to pay Capitol Telecom \$400 to run a phone line to the fire alarm box in the lobby of the Great Hall

Motion to approve payment of \$400 to Capitol Telecom to run a phone line to fire alarm box in the lobby of the Great Hall was made by Nancy. Lee 2nd the motion. All voted in favor and motion passed.

iv. Occupancy permit status

Dan sent an email to the fire marshall to ask for an extension on our temporary permit. He has not yet received a response

v. Other projects

Water in the basement: We do have a plan to conquer the water. Jerry purchased large drains to install. Hopes that all of the issues will be resolved and we will have a dry basement by next spring.

vi. Handicap ramp

This is still being worked on but it looks like it will cost less than we thought.

9. Admin Team

Jerry sent minutes and asked us to review them (see attached)

10. Decorating/Design Team

No report at this time. We will need to purchase shelves to house the books

11. Kitchen Team

Nan reported that the refrigerator is arriving 7/27/21. She did order with an ice maker so a water line will need to be installed. The prepacked food is working well.

She also suggested that we place a table in the Great Hall with information and Sign up sheets for all of the Teams. Interested people could sign up with their contact information. Everyone agreed that this was a great Idea.

12. Celebration/Tech Team

Approval of quote from Steve to add speakers to the sound system. This will provide clear sound to people that are sitting on the far left side of the stage. See attached quote

We decided to raise the TV's so that the powerpoint can be seen from all locations. It was suggested to put the speakers in the ceiling. This was motion to approve quote was tabled until Dan can talk to Steve about options.

13. Spiritual Development Team First Meeting Sunday August 1

This will occur during the SALT time at 9:30. Jerry will close the wall in the Great Hall prior to 9:30 so that everyone can hear.

14. IDEA Team

The team had a first meeting with 3 attendees. We discussed ideas and the board felt that the team focus was not as was intended – Dan suggested it was to focus on where and when to display flags. I said that I would take this discussion back to the team to see what is decided.

Possible **MISSION**

To provide thoughtful consideration, forward thinking ideas, and guidance to the Leadership Counsel, Board of Trustees, or our Unity Congregation on ways that together we can embrace our individuality and celebrate our uniqueness with full acceptance of all people. Through bringing awareness to the value of our diversity and building a consciousness of inclusion, this team's mission is dedicated to advancing spiritual awakening and transformation in the world.

Possible **TASKS**

1. Adopt an appropriate name
2. Adopt an appropriate mission
3. Adopt appropriate tasks
4. Provide recommendations on our display of symbols, flags and media.

15. Adjourn meeting –

Nancy made the motion and Kathy 2nd the motion. Meeting adjourned.