

UUCC Annual Meeting
Sunday, June 3, 2018

- Confirmation of Quorum – 146 members present or represented by proxy (quorum met)
- Call to Order
- Opening Words- Laura Solomon
- Minutes from last year were reviewed and unanimously approved

- Report from President (Frank Hazzard)

- Report from the Treasurer (Robin Hessey for Jodi Brown)
Overall expenses tracking to budget, income is slightly ahead of budget, primarily due to some pledge units pre-paying their pledges in Dec 2017, \$60K in win-win notes- plan to pay off by 2020. Members asked about accounting details (total assets, allocation of building equity, “pre-payment” of pledges in 2017 in anticipation of tax law changes).

- Report from Endowment Board
Many of us have assets that UUCC may be able to benefit from now without having to affect those assets until we die. A 5-million-dollar fund, “Wake Now Our Vision,” established by a UU congregation in New York, will, for a limited time, match 10% of pledged funds. If members commit to donating as little as one-half percent of an asset account upon death to UUCC’s endowment fund, the endowment fund will receive \$1000, or more, in cash *now*. If you have already indicated UUCC as a beneficiary in your will, make sure you tell us now, so we can have those future funds matched in the next year (or until funds run out).

Join the “Wake Now Our Vision” via email, during Sunday coffee hour, or online

<https://uucolumbia.net/legacy>

<https://endowment@uucolumbia.net>

- **Election of Board of Trustees members, Nominating Committee Members and Endowment Board Members.**

A call was made for additional nominations from the floor – none

Voting was by written ballot

Board of Trustees Note: Some board members have varying length terms to stagger officers and trustees.

Tim Lattimer, 2nd VP (3-year term)

Wendy Ramsey, Treasurer (3-year term)

Ken Rock, Secretary (2-year term)

Amy Brooks, At-Large (1-year term)

Results: All new board of trustees members were elected by a vote of 137 “yes” and 9 abstentions.

Endowment Board

Jennie Fitzpatrick (3-year term)

Greg Seidman (3-year term)

Results: Both Endowment Board members were elected by a vote of 137 “yes” and 9 abstentions.

Nominating Committee

Laura Solomon (2-year term)

Stuart TenHoor (2-year term)

Results: Both Nominating Committee members were elected by a vote of 137 “yes” and 9 abstentions.

- **Annual Budget Drive**

Raised \$739,000 in pledges- a decrease of about 2%. Pledging families decreased from 319 to 277.

89 pledges = no change (\$232k)

127 pledges = increase (\$77k)

44 pledges = decrease (\$58k)

17 new pledges = (\$18k)

60 pledges “stopped” (\$74k) = 5 moved, 5 waivers, 10 no longer attending, 40 no response

We were not able to fully fund any of UUCC’s priorities that the congregation established in January.

- **2018-2019 Budget**

To balance the budget, the Board of Trustees chose to:

-Keep staff salaries at current levels

-Eliminate Youth Music Director Position

-Reduce program budgets by 50%

-Print an Order of Worship only (rest of content will be online)

-Increase the UUA Assessment by \$3,000 (new “fair share” calculation for UUA is 6.5% of our budget, which would be \$57k)

-Fund Coffee Hour supplies

-Borrow \$15,000 from the Operating Reserve

Members asked about several items:

- Plans for the children’s choir (Executive Team is addressing)
- Replenishing the Operating Reserve (will repay as soon as possible)
- Potential changes in staff health care and FICA costs (none anticipated)
- Recommended Operating Reserve amount (3-6 months of operating costs)
- Coffeehouse budget (not currently counted in overall budget because money flows in and then immediately out to artists or designated groups)
- 2018 OBIC Assessment (any surplus will be returned to owning congregations)

- OBIC Reserve for Replacement amount (long-range replacement/repair fund, determined by OBIC Board under direction of Jim Caldiero)
- Interest rates (Executive Team will reassess possible changes, to increase interest earned on existing assets)
- Cost of announcements in Order of Service (difficult for people who do not use computers to access information, consider assessing congregation's preferred mode of receiving information about UUCC events)
- Equity of across-the-board 50% budget cuts (discussion of implicit congregational priorities, perceived "zero-sum game" of Religious Education vs Social Action Council vs music vs Order of Service)
- UUA assessment (how many "fair share" congregations?)
- Cutting staff instead of cutting programs
- Adding staff to Social Action
- Decrease in RE numbers
- Individual direct contributions to child care for events
- Allocation of Second Sunday Outreach
- Efforts to increase membership as a way of increasing funding
- False dichotomy between RE and Social Action

Rev. Paige noted that there are people in the room who have not pledged and wondered if they realized it. There seems to be a disconnect in that they are engaged enough to attend an annual meeting despite not pledging.

- **Budget Approval**

Vote to approve the 2018-19 budget

Voting via written ballots

Results: 139 "yes," 6 "no," and 1 abstention

- **Strategic Plan: Executive Team/Board of Trustees**

Get more information online at <https://uucolumbia.net/governance>

- **Awards Presentation by Carla Gates**

Backbone Winner: Mirtha McGovern

Generous Soul Winner: Flo Wagner

Bright Future Winner (youth): Micaela Lattimer

Unsung Hero Winner: Kristin Parrish-Eaton

- **Town Hall Meeting**

- Social Action is not even 1% of our budget and I think it should be increased since it is a part of our UU Principles.

- It's harder for older folks to use computers so the bulletin should be printed.

- I'm very grateful for the board and the meetings in January.

- I'm wondering if there is another way to quantify ways we spend money.

- Every 7 years we should revisit our mission/vision/covenant; I believe this will help us get clear on our priorities.
- When we watch our youth step into awareness and activism, I realize that it is also social action. There are so many ways to invest in our values.
- We used to pay extra for Adult RE and I am open to that again. The board chose not to introduce RE fees because it felt it might exclude some people and discourage participation
- I want to thank Frank and the Board for the professional nature of this meeting, but there are many folks who aren't here. I hope the Board will make the effort for small group discussions moving forward with budgetary decisions.
- We used to have Dessert Meetings in individual homes over a period of time with rotating leadership in the meetings to ensure that everyone participated.
- I'm amazed how much transition we've had and how we simply don't stop!
- I think a 3-year plan sounds like a great idea.

- **Announcements**

Next year's annual meeting will be on Sunday, June 2, 2019, at 6:30 pm
Paige and Maureen gave Frank a gift and a big hug

- **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn granted.