



Unity Renaissance

Annual Meeting & Election

Sunday, January 20, 2013

Active/Voting members

notes by Valerie Jones/Christopher Naughton

1. Introduction: Richard Hackman
 - a. Reminder: to have cast ballots before meeting
 - b. Reminder: Names of candidates for Board
2. Introduction of Board Members
3. Opening Prayer: Christopher Naughton
4. Announcements: Richard Hackman
 - a. Pre-meeting mailing: Not everyone received invitations to today with by-law changes and yearly tithing summary. If you didn't receive, please pick up today.
 - b. Terminology clarification: What is a member, what is a congregant?
 - i. Congregant: one who congregates
 - a. Active member: authority to vote in elections, by-laws, corporate issues and operations, etc. This is why active members are verified annually.
5. By-law changes: Richard Hackman
 - a. Changing name of Nomination Committee to Nomination Council (read actual language)
 - b. Question: Jann asked if he needed someone to make a motion, Richard made motion, seconded by Cindy Root, by-law change unanimously accepted
6. Annual review of Board accomplishments: Richard Hackman
 - a. reviewed and updated annual strategic plan, forecasted
 - b. board liaisons assigned to various departments
 - c. modified UR organization chart
 - d. monthly board minister meetings
 - e. commenced 2012 term with combined Board and Staff meeting, will continue this year
 - f. Laura Barrett-Bennet resigned, had going-away event
 - g. put together new minister search committee
 - h. physical plant:

- a. roof repairs
- b. new entrance lighting
- c. landscape/tree work: had to have trees pruned/removed
- a. continued emphasis on improvement in Board operations and responsiveness
- b. Policy & Procedures committee initiated, may be several comprehensive changes to details (names, etc) basic document is good
- c. development team: important since we are in transition with ministers
 - a. community involvement: Chamber of Commerce (Scotty)
- l. provided additional funding for music department for Cantata and other offerings
- m. will be providing link to free family life planner as a free service for members to for making plans for family, parents, etc.
- n. Board staff/leadership meeting with Rev. Diane Scribner-Clevenger
- o. Women's group revitalized Thanks to Beatrice and Maureen
- p. Tithing
 - Church tithes: Unity worldwide, silent Unity,
 - Board also tithes \$8062.42 (check amount), miscellaneous - 15% of the 10% Unity Bon Air, the ___ foundation_____ house, Tom Baker, Fellowship of Inner Light, Unity fellowship, Michael Savage, Unity churches of Fort Collins, Coloardo springs, Armand & Angelina, angels of _____, Unity of Bowie, pray attention ministries, beach house (CHECK THIS LIST). Also gifts to staff in both last and this year ending.

7. Election results:

- a. Thanks to Elari for her outstanding job leading the election _____
 - Elari reports results: She thanked George Rhodes, Alex, _____ Cythina, Donna Corbet and _____ (ask Elari)
- b. Heidi Kulberg 3yr, Cindy Mills, 3yr, Theresa Cyrus 2-year term
- c. Annual post-election Board meeting January 24 to greet new members and select officers
- d. Asked others to serve on Board

8. Financial Report: John Root

- a. Process easier in last several years due to 3-year plan. Tweaked this years, learned each year what needs adjustment. Not alot of surprises in this years financial statement, good year overall. Some restraints in a few areas, very good calling ___ last month of year, good be/c Oct/Nov less, people responded to bring year to finishing in the black. Commented on nice to have positive cash flow. Property holding value well, top of \$1,675,644 total assets, jewel of property/assets, have a few things to fix coming up but that's expected. Also have long-term stocks and cash reserves. ONE thing coming up in next eyar in Jan 2014 is retirement of mortgage, looking forward to, only problem this year was how to deal with not having minister now, but coming one. Used previous projections to figure out what how it plays in when new minister arrives in spring.
- b. Donna: To think about in future, financial planning, Christina Eckert gave gift of \$28k 2 years ago, estate closed out another gift of \$42k. Very important to keep your estate in mind. Admin area: Richard mentioned at last meeting (quarterly/Comm forum, only 5 last time- things going well when few show up!) purpose- to review what's going on , have Q&A. Now have 6 directors, normally

there would be a minister's report, here's what's been going on, not been idle continue to grow, thrive. New departments (what called, directors?)

- c. Youth and family ministry: Dakota, Village party Feb. 3 11:45- 30 approx. children. Lots of opportunities for members to serve children's program, come to luncheon to learn more.
- d. Adult Ed taking off (i.e., moving up!): SEE Classes, good sign up, next one next week, big in new thought. Affirmative prayer class going on now, Sundays at 9am, Ardell McCoy. Class this monday deeper meditation, Eliz Polizzi, another class next week. Classes well attended. If you want a class you don't see or want to teach, let us know. First Sunday of every month, brought back class "Welcome to Unity Basics". Bi-monthly: Path to discover and unity quest for truth. Giving current and new members opportunity to learn more about UR. For music program, able to give full choir with rehearsals through may, starting again Sept-Dec in20123. Prayer and pastoral: prayer chaplains worked with Diane while here, doing more monthly prayer chaplain calls. Had (thanked Faye) putting together brochure for spiritual coaching and counseling, volunteers to give support (they have professional experience. Sunday celebration services, making a lot of changes. Meeting every month, 1st Sunday, 9:30-10, make changes on the spot or whatever for months' services. Staff Janiciki contact- 4 sundya service supervisors each week at 9:30 making sure all is ready for 10:30. Thanks to Amrber, Georgia, Pamela and Lisa. A lot going on, keeping fluid and active. Guest speakers, keeping close to home through 20th, through holidays and elections close. Now bringing outside starting next week with John Maxwell Taylor, several spaced Marcy and April deliberately as search committee may need that. Sign up in narthex. As of April 21-middle of May, Diane will be back for the month. Updating website, giving whole new look. Thanks to Unity in the World for all they do in the gardening, complemented 4-5 member group. Unity in the World does much for the Church, also involved in Sunday service area. Started before annual meeting last year Evolutionary Council, though it hasn't met this year, this is the time to begin again. If interested in serving, see Alex Then. Member input collected by Council has been valuable. Passed around two clipboards: how to serve church, and volunteer signup for 25th anniversary (Sat. Nov. 14 timeframe). One of things want to do (john steps up) having November time frame, have burning the mortgage party. If we pay 2 months early, save 8200. would be way to celebrate. Right now, current \$52,900, each month getting down. Going to shoot for November payoff date instead of going fully to end. (back to Donna) someone has come forth with funding, will match to help meet early mortgage payment payoff. Plaque will give recognition or can be anonymous. Thanks to all for their love and support. Donna ended.

9. Minister search update: Eddie Oliver

- a. Called for committee members to raise hands
- b. Met 13 weeks in quest to attract new minister.
- c. At beginning, Board put together "church packet" for any Unity Minister to review and see what church is about and characteristics of Minister we want to attract. Using "Hiring new minister guidance binder from unity. Kept in narthex, as well as binder with Q&A, committee minutes and other information.
- d. Update: rec'd dozen applications. Process straightforward, resumes, credos/core values, sent out 4 questions to each applicant asking them to respond in writing

(described 4 questions) Reviewed those answers, listened to 2 talks for each, have had a few interviews, a few second interviews. Now checking references for final candidates. Very close to completing review of each applicant. Will be making official recommendation to Bd, Bd will invite them for weekend interview, congregation's ability to experience them in talk, workshop and other interaction (Q&A, etc.)

e. Will answer questions:

- Jane Larson: Are all candidates still being considered? No, chose those for phone interviews, screened out those that didn't meet
- Cindy: how many down to, can we get any info now? Eddie: candidates for personnel reason, with current churches, have asked for confidentiality. How many left? half.
- Theresa: Those who have current church, would it be practical for us to mystery shop them, if practical, visit their church, see them in action at their home church? Sure, could add more info, add understanding. difficulty of that, several well -qualified church currently do not have church, uneven playing field if we see some, at least three chances when they come here.

10. Alan: have been able to go on sites with video of them speaking in their own churches and review.

- Karen: would look forward to seeing someone with admin and outreach b/g. 20 years ago, 300 membership, wants simplification in minister that could help coalesce (my words) Eddie: Imagine committee of 10 agreeing on anything, this is one of the challenges. Everyone take a deep breath, let it out slowly, no matter who we draw, they are not going to be everything to everybody all the time. We will have to step up to the plate and support hem. This search team contacting at least 3 or 4 ref's for each of final candidates, best question in checking ref, what area of support can we look forward to offering this candidate? We'll know ahead of time where they need support so when they come in they can utilize their strengths.
- Keep us in prayer as we go forward. (clapping/salute their efforts).
- Richard: Lots of people stepping up in this process. Lead and inspire- hopefully great leader and spiritual teacher, part of that is us.

11. Elari: nominations from the floor for nomination council of Board next year

a. Call for nominations/ volunteers

- Jane Larson nominated: Marsha Austin, accepted
- Jann nominated: Charity Oronzo, can she be on, is she employee? Not an employee, can be nominated. She accepted
- Cordy- can one be one if one is partner- Cordy nominates herself- accepted
- (one of these becomes back-up/alternate)
- Motion nominations closed, seconded, all Ayes.
- Show of hands: Marsha & Cordy elected, Charity alternate

b. Elari explained what position is, council works with/through the nomination process, puts together process, packets, coordinates events assoc. with election. Very active in speaking to potential candidates throughout the year to consider Board service. Can stand for strong leadership by your involvement. Very rewarding.

c. Elections: (I typed this Out of order, Elari spoke first)

12. Member/Congregant Q&A:

- a. Cordy Mack: Donated to Unity Bon Air? Cordy understands they are going well, why did Board donate to Bon Air- sent request. CWN said Board looked at options, came to Beckwith, good relationship with us, wasn't a pressing church that month with a disaster or other need.
- b. Trish: Budget for next year- where do you put in for tech equip updates? Ed- designated under office and admin expenses. Is advertising also under that? Marketing and Advertising is a line-up, but under office expenses? How much is expenses? Answered Ed/CWN/John, discussed amounts allocated. Trish: might be really wish to increase marketing, growth of church is how community sees you, mentioned big churches on GN who started small. Discussed what we want to grow, how we do that is attract through advertising, marketing, and youth programs, asked Board to keep it in mind. CWN says we are, considering with new minister coming in, may be new avenues to bring \$ in, spent a lot two years ago for Beckwith. Trish: Being on marketing committee, it's ongoing, not for an event, need penetration/saturation (my words)
- c. Theresa: Request a YouTube channel to put sermons online. For people to see UR, and members, too. She offers to set up. Children's choir? When Shelley McCoy left, children sad they couldn't contribute to Sunday service for awhile. Beatrice, Trish, and Teresa co-directors of children's choir. Children hungry for opportunity.
- d. Val: YouTube live stream now an option, something to consider, would require ramp up, equipment etc. Would allow archiving and real-time outreach.
- e. Theresa: Speaking to Trish's comments on spending more money in marketing, big churches she mentioned that churches that have that, churches to tithe, hasn't come from our top down that one should set goals here, that one should stick to commitment to UR. Need to keep that coming, until then, won't have high enough marketing budget. Sam responds: to create conscience, for tithing, the more they are affected the more they open up to giving. But in this case, it's not just the minister, it's you and you and you. If we open hearts, it can be through all of us and in response to all of us. Requires lots of opening up. Encourage each to encourage our consciousness. UR has always been a heart-felt church, open, money will flow.

13. Jan- moved to conclude, seconded.

14. Ann- closing prayer

15. Conclusion

VAL SUGGESTION: include text of prayers, i think that is important to record, and reconsider over time.