

Agenda for Program Council Jan. 24, 2022

Attendees: Sue Herzberg (Programming), Steve Wilke (Board Rep), Cathy Rauch (Chair), Erin Milligan (Growth), Margaret Weck (Leadership), Clint Cruse (Facilities), [Danielle Kozemczak](#)(Communications)

Opening words-Sue Herzberg

Sixth Principle The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
Honor Maya Angelou by reading her poem *Caged Bird*

Check-in 6:35-6:55p

Guest Margaret Weck -Nominations and Leadership Committee

This upcoming Sunday 1/30 we are hosting a special coffee hour after service. The purpose of the meeting is to remind members of the church governance structure. This is in anticipation of trying to get people to step up to fill positions. Cluster chairs, would you be willing to attend the meeting and talk about what is so great about your cluster? The goal is to be upbeat and talk about the work done by your cluster. Think about what opportunities new members could connect with. Also, are there any rising stars who are ideal for positions?

Facilities Cluster: Clint Cruse- Yes

Growth and Engagement Cluster: [Erin Milligan](#) - I'm going to be out of town, but someone may be able to cover for me.

Outreach and Social Action Cluster: [Lisa Ross](#) (OOT) Lisa will still be out of town. I can find someone to cover it. -CR

Can you talk about being Council Chair? -MW

Yes - CR

Is this Coffee hour the mid-winter meeting that was listed in the newsletter? -CC

Not really. In the BY-laws certain requirements need to be met to have an official congregational meeting where business is done. We have to give notice to the congregation of so many days on the business that will be transacted at this meeting. So this will not technically be like most mid-winter meetings. But we wanted to use the time to discuss church governance and encourage new members to step up. -MW

Should I change the name in the newsletter? -DK

Leave it how it is. Board did not do certain things we cannot do official business- take votes.
MW

Please think about updating your Committee description on the website soon -MW

Do you have any ideas on how to cast a wider net for potential nominees? -MW

- Maybe a service on service? Or the worship theme for a month could be on service? Someone could speak at each service about their cluster/committee. -CC
- Ask people to nominate someone else -CR

MW thanked everyone and left the meeting.

Discussion of Sixth Principle 7:05pm-7:20pm The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Facilities Cluster:

- Creating a safe space for activities of the church - CC

Working with Towards Justice on air monitoring project to let people in the community know the quality of air that they are breathing -CC

Outreach and Social Action Cluster:

In the past the Environmental Task Force- Lead remediation in schools. Illegal Dumping. - CC

Submitted testimony to the state against legislative banning 1619, We Stories Curriculum, etc - CR

Partner Church - UUA will no longer be part of the program. They are working on keeping that program going at our church. Some events have been cancelled or postponed. - CC

Programming Cluster

Worship Committee - Sermons encourage us to do the right thing. -CC

It Moves the conversation in the right direction. Talk before action.

RE- talking about social justice movements. Thoughtful about their actions.

ERDE-

UnFish Fry- promotes vegetarian diet. -SH

Growth and Engagement.Erin Milligan

Women's Alliance- Justice and Equality.

Arrest Program - 53 participants -CR

Reports: 7:20-7:55pm

Report from the Communications Admin.- Danielle

Reviewed current efforts with weekly emails through MailChimp and current open rates.

Reviewed Facebook efforts and current content and engagement. 825 likes for Church Page.

Rev Kim posts images on Facebook and Instagram. That's the bulk of our current content.

Looking to add more event notices.

Report from Policy Board Rep- Steve Wilke

Board is focusing on getting people back in sanctuary while dealing with COVID surge.

Gene Rubin mentioned this in his column; we have been discussing if the board should be

advocacy oriented. Did not come to a decision. -SW

Towards Justice talks about actionable things members can do. Policy Work is more involved. Everyone is different and we need to offer different levels of involvement-CR

When I was on the board the discussion was often who do we advocate for? So has it changed to do we even advocate? -Erin M

Everyone felt Rev Kim should speak out on social issues and determine our focus.

It is more the how and when that we are currently discussing -SW

Reports from Cluster Chairs-7:55-8:00pm

Stewardship Cluster: Steve Smidowicz (ABSENT)

(Edit) 1/30/22

Finance:

Unreconciled budget report shows approximate \$30K deficit in budget.

This is primarily due to Randy not having entered any fund transfers from the Memorial and Special gifts funds to the Revenue side of the balance sheet.

Kathy Wilke also reminded the committee that Q1 is usually when retirees need to take their MRD (Minimum Required Distribution) from their retirement accounts. Any contributions from retirees to the church would likely show up this quarter.

Investment portfolio took some losses due to market downturn, portfolio s balanced at the target of 70% Equities / 30% cash, short term investments

Steve asked the committee if we should consider some portion of the portfolio to be invested in contrarian investments (investments that can move positive when the market goes down, but move down when the market is up. Committee felt keeping the portfolio 'simple' with our 70/30 mix is a sufficient hedge for market fluctuation.

Gene reminded the Committee that we will likely have a very large repair commitment in the coming months to the tune of \$30K for plumbing repairs.

Finance's next meetings are Feb 16, Mar 16, and Apr 19, due to Q1 being budget season and need to coordinate with Canvass on revenue goals for the year

Steve reminded the committee that this is his last meeting as chair to the Finance Committee as stated in his 'retirement' announcement summer 2021.

No mention of a replacement candidate was made by Kim or Gene

Canvass:

Kim mentioned having a possible candidate for this year's Canvass. Steve asked who that was (Emily Jaycox and Kathy Wire).

(End Edit)

Facilities Cluster: Clint Cruse

Discussing advocacy- moving forward with an issue that the whole church can agree on.

Working to keep the roof up and weeds down.

- Boiler broke down - every winter this happens. Addressed
- Continued to have plumbing issues. water bubbling through the floors.
 - Replaced area with obvious leak. But it is leaking somewhere else as well. We will be seeking plumbers again for bids.
 - replacing plumbing overhead would be pricey and disruptive. Leaning towards digging up and replacing parts.
- Air Monitoring Project on our property three different months. Data gets fed back to databases for the whole area.
- Water testing was good. Sam has been flushing the system.
- Landscaping is not much during winter.
- COVID- trying to understand what would it look like to be safe to be in-person. Hopeful that it peaked and is declining. Balancing safety and the need to meet in person for fellowship.
- Misc Project- looking at redoing locks to the audio room. Painting and plastering. New table and chairs should be arriving in the next few weeks.

Outreach and Social Action Cluster: Lisa Ross (out of town)

Growth and Engagement Cluster: Erin Milligan

- Women's Alliance - meeting weekly via zoom. Want to attract new members. Previous target audience was not employed people. May move time to reach more people.
- Care and Concern - sending out valentines that Claire made
- Membership - newcomer chats and reporting back to find ways to connect. New member write ups going in the newsletter.

Programming Cluster: Sue Herzberg

- New DRE has started
- RE went inside and then was postponed, now upper grades are back in the building
- ERDE had to cancel Event
- Worship committee - working around the limitations of being virtual at the moment.

Closing words- Sue Herzberg

Don't Sleep Through the Revolution

Adjournment- 8:00pm

Facilities Cluster: Clint Cruse

Growth and Engagement Cluster: Erin Milligan

Stewardship Cluster: Steve Smidowicz (ABSENT)

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