

11/12/08

FUUSE Board Minutes for Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Board Members present: Dave Szarmach, Jennifer Morriss, Tish Lewis, Bob Moore, Joy Bicknell, Karen Straub-Wiernicki, Kendra Ford.

Those not attending: Ray Zolton, Kimberly Wootan

Meeting began at 7:00 PM

Opening Words were offered by Karen with a quote by Marcel Proust which paraphrased went something like: The voyage of discovery is not in seeking new landscapes but in having fresh eyes to see the same landscapes.

New Business

Review of the All-Church Meeting

The question for the Board was does the Board need to vote to approve the Building Feasibility Study Group 's (BFSG) recommendation regarding the new building proposal options that were presented to the congregation at the All-Church meeting on November 2? The recommendation offered by the BFSG was to renovate and add on to the existing building at 12 Elm Street. Dave said that the BFSG was interested in receiving feedback from FUUSE members regarding their recommendation until 12/31/08, then they would like to make a decision on how to proceed with the proposal.

After a discussion, the feeling of the Board was not to do a Financial Feasibility Study (with an estimate of around \$ 9000). The feeling was that we should explore what an architect would charge to draw up some plans, and we could get a ball park estimate of this from initial contact with an architect. Tish offered to contact an architect (possibly more than one) to get an estimate of what architectural plans would cost.

Program Council

The Fourth Draft (dated 11/5/08) of the FUUSE Program Council Statement of Purpose was presented before the Board.

Dave made a motion that the Board accepts the Program Council Statement of Purpose. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Old Business

DRE Job Description

The review and discussion of the DRE job description was moved to the December 10th Board meeting.

Alcohol Policy

The existing policy of consumption of alcohol on church premises is regarded as a test period. There is a concern about church liability with regard to alcohol consumption and church related and non-affiliated events that take place on church grounds. Alcohol is served at an annual fundraiser (the church auction) and questions raised about this activity and liability appear to be addressed if the number of drinks

served to each member attending is limited to two. The two-drink limit is to be controlled by offering a two-ticket/stamp system that would insure alcohol is limited to the two-drink recommendation.

The Safe Congregation Committee is interested in the Board adopting an alcohol use policy. The Board feels that they will be glad to consider a recommendation by the Safe Congregation Committee if the committee offers a recommendation for them to consider. Joy offered to relay this message to the Safe Congregation Committee.

Financial Offering to FUUSE

Russell Tarason had offered \$500 to raise the roof of the church sanctuary. Russell Tarason approached Dave and suggested this money be used in the BFGS Feasibility Fund.

Dave made a motion to move the \$500 contribution received from Russell Tarason to the BFGS Fund. Joy seconded and the motion was adopted.

Rental Policy

Pat Baker is seeking Board permission to act as Administrator to schedule non-church related activities on church premises. She's also looking for guidance on setting a policy in terms of building use and rental fees. Bob has agreed to be the Board go-between with regard to policy terms and conditions for building use.

Strategic Plan and Liaisons

Tish checked in with liaisons of the various FUUSE committees to ask what tasks they can accomplish this year according to Draft #4 Strategic Plan.

The liaisons of each committee have agreed to contact their respective committee and inquire, help guide the members to move forward on the doable tasks assigned to them in the strategic plan.

Bookkeeper

Kendra has suggested that the bookkeeping tasks that Pat Baker currently does be turned over to a paid part-time bookkeeper. This is a recommendation that should be considered in the coming year. The required time of bookkeeping per week is 4 hours, and the expense would amount to \$3800/year.

The Board recommends that the Finance Committee place a line item in next year's budget for a Bookkeeper in the amount of \$3800 for work that would require a time of 4 hours/week.

Reports

Finance Committee:

- James Breeling and others on the committee are writing a charter.
- the group is also writing a job description for a Treasurer. Frank Heffron is looking for one (Treasurer, that is).
- the group is looking to see if a sabbatical can be arranged for Kendra.
- Will meet with other committees to see if they need some advice on doing budget projections.

Facilities Committee:

- gearing up for winter; will try rounding up people for snow removal.
- painting party to finish pews in the sanctuary.

RE Committee:

- all classes are running
- the committee is working on a policy for the nursery
- painting of walls taking place in the basement
- Joy will make plans to have the basement floor painted

Minister's Report

- Kendra will be in Tennessee during Thanksgiving weekend

October Board minutes

After comments were offered from Jennifer and Dave, the October 8th Board minutes were accepted by the Board

Meeting ended at 9:20 PM.

Action and/or issue	Responsible Party and/or target date
Board minutes for October 8 th were approved after Board review.	Board of Trustees
Dave made a motion to move the \$500 gift received from Russell Tarason to the BSFG fund.	The motion was adopted by the Board.
Dave made a motion that the Board accept the Program Council Statement of Purpose.	The motion was adopted by the Board.
The cost of architectural plans needs to be estimated to help the BSFG and the Board decide how to proceed with the BSFG's recommendation for renovating the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.	Tish will pursue these estimates.
Pat Baker would like to have the Board set up a building use policy that has the Board's approval.	Bob will meet with Pat.
The Safe Congregation Committee is looking for guidance in terms of an alcohol use policy with the Board's blessing.	Joy will contact the committee and communicate the need for a recommendation from the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Moore