

Congregational Conversation Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2020

- I. Meeting called to order at 11:18 am
- II. Opening Word by our minister—Rev. Andy Burnette
- III. Introduction of Candidates by our chair leader—Ken St. John
  - i. There are 15 candidates to fill 11 opening positions
  - ii. Explained that each candidate would be given a 2 mins time period to talk about themselves.
  - iii. The LDC formulated 3 questions they ask the candidates to focus on;
    1. Tell us a little bit about yourself and how you are currently active at VUU?
    2. What motivates you to participate in Valley UU leadership?
    3. What useful skills / experience do you bring to the committee upon which you would serve?
  - iv. First Ken started it off with a little bit about himself. Explained that his mother's maiden name was Zwetow. He felt sorry for the people with last names at the end of the alphabet so he is introducing the candidates in reverse order.
    1. Candidates for the Board of Trustees, Four vacancies
      1. Mary Wolf-Francis (appointed incumbent)
      2. Pam Swan
      3. Kevin Guhman
      4. Liz Chain
        1. Who explained that she is not running
      5. Libby Bean
    2. Candidates for Leadership Development Committee, Five vacancies
      1. Rebecca Riggs (appointed incumbent)
      2. Beverly McCormick (incumbent)
      3. Lee Laskowski
      4. Garry Klepser
      5. Roz Hawkins
      6. Joyce Donahue
      7. Roberta (Bert) Baker
    3. Candidates for Special Funds Committee, Two vacancies
      1. David Sheh
      2. Joel Sannes (incumbent)
      3. Carl Anderson
  - v. For more information on candidates please see their bio on our website and you can contact them personally – all information is listed in our directory. We will have an election and it will most likely be digital voting and of course an absentee ballot. Watch the weekly bulletins for more information.
- IV. Proposed By-Law Addition by the Board of Trustee President—Sue Keen
  - i. Described the changes to Board policy that will be voted on at the annual meeting on June 7. The change empowers the Board to appoint up to 2 young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 to non-voting positions in the Board for 2 year terms.
- V. Proposed Budget 2020-2021 by the Board of Trustee Treasurer—DeeAnne McClenahan and the Board of Trustee Vice-President—Bob Fabre

- i. Asked everyone to put their questions in the chat box. Explained that it is not a normal year for us. Last year we were at \$625,000 revenue and this year we are at \$590,000. Our income is down a little bit in March and April. It's very hard to predict May and June but we are trying. Proposing that our next year budget to be at \$503,000.
- ii. Good news we got 2 (one time) grants this year from the federal government. One is the SBA grant at \$10,000 and the other is (PPE) Paycheck Program Loan/grant at \$78,000. We also have a VUU member who had a one time family legacy grant at \$30,000. Total we are looking at a one time income of \$118,000.
- iii. Proposed Budget expenses have been emailed out to everyone a couple of time this past week.
- iv. Budget Notes—Bob Fabre
  1. This budget was developed by the Finance Committee
  2. The finance committee recommendation was reviewed and adjusted by team including Budget compiler, Treasurer, Sr. Minister. Finance Chair, Board/Finance Liason
  3. Submitted to the Board and approved 5.11.2020 to be submitted to the congregation for review and discussion at the congregational conversation 5.17 and for a congregational vote at the Annual meeting 06.14
  4. Agreed on 85% pledge collection rate, “skinny” expense budget.
  5. No increases or decrease projected in Rental income (Nefesh Soul annualized)
  6. Proposed budget includes no raises, no terminations, no salary reductions except: \* Reduced child care and lead teachers by 25% (summer quarter furlough)
  7. UUA Dues decreased by 25% from “fair share” calc
  8. UUJAZ and Valley Interfaith reduced by 25%
  9. Board agrees that “skinny” expense budget to be followed, even if revenue increases
    1. If 20-21 produces surplus that will help with structural deficit for 21-22
  10. The Board proposes at least quarterly review/adjustment to budget if revenue decreases
- v. Questions
  1. What is the current progress on the building campaign? We are continuing to collect the Capital Campaign Pledges. Note: if you have new issue arise and your unable to make you pledge, please just let us know or if you need to decrease that is allow too. We are making no plans for the building right now.
  2. If the Adobe school decides to go online teaching in the fall, will they continue to pay rent? They plan on getting back to school, they teach pre-school children. Also, our Nefesh Soul (our Jewish congregation) is supporting the youth sanctuary for I-Help and are continuing to pay rent.
  3. Are the funds for technology to include more music in services? We have a music expense line in our budget, proposed at \$2,000. Regarding on this question it was technology and technology does keep changing. So keep in mind the number here could be rearranged to help meet our needs in music.
  4. Is there a less expensive option for a photocopier? Up until recently we have been doing a lot of color copies, we are not doing that now. Sue Ringer is looking into this.
  5. Faith Formation Director salary is where? In in the Payroll line, you have to look into the full budget spreadsheet to see it.
  6. The insurance costs remain the same. Can we get a pro-rated reduction due to our reduce use of the sanctuary? We are actually using our sanctuary more that we were before the virus. The Interfaith Emergency Lodging Program (I-HELP) is using our sanctuary 24/7. To house the participants of their program which is great for them because they can keep it sanitized and safe for their participants. They even been able to graduate people out of the program and brought in new people who have been tested. For

resource for extra expenses we are working with a group in Chandler who sponsors I-  
Help to get some money for extra expenses.

7. The date of the Annual meeting is? June 7<sup>th</sup>
8. If you think of any other questions, you can submit them in to VUU.org email.

VI. Adjourned 12:26 pm