

## **UUFH Board Meeting**

**December 17, 2024**

**Attendees:** Laura Otton, Gerri Farrell, Allyson Barish, Liza Burby, Jim Rubin-Perez, Jenna Kern-Rugile, Jon Nielsen, Pastor Madelyn Campbell

**Covenant** (Jenna) – Reviewed.

### **Discussion and Vote Items:**

**Consent agenda** – November’s Board Meeting Minutes unanimously approved.

**Renaming Misconduct Review Team as Right Relations (Laura and Pastor Madelyn)** – The primary purpose of this Team is to handle situations whenever someone is out of covenant. Getting back into covenant is ‘right relations.’ Everyone agrees to name change.

**Charity for Christmas** – Unanimous agreement to have the Split Plate Charity for Christmas Eve go to Family Service League and HIHI.

### **Discussion Items:**

**Accessibility Task Force Charter** – Taken off the agenda for this meeting. Gerri is convener of the Ad Hoc Committee, which needs to choose a chairperson. It was discussed whether the Ad Hoc Committee’s scope should widen from just an investigating a ramp for the chancel to full accessibility in the Worship Hall including the audio-visual/tech and the entire worship experience. Also discussed was the need for accessibility to be included in consideration of all facets of the Fellowship including building and grounds. It was suggested to start with an accessibility audit, then tasks can be prioritized to be taken on over time. Priority now is on the Main Hall for the Task Force, but widen the scope to include the full worship experience, so it does include AV/tech. Must address ADA, including any changes affecting historic buildings such as UUFH’s. Gerri will speak with Beth Balalaos, who is qualified and willing to conduct an audit. Board members discussed whether to add Accessibility to the organizational structure (not as a subcommittee) ask Ad Hoc Committee to define accessibility for the budget, and ask “What are you doing about accessibility?” of each committee during the budget process. Other suggestions included adding a member of Social Justice and special needs students on the committee, but do not make the task force too large.

**Stewardship and Fundraising (Pastor Madelyn)** – Stewardship and fundraising overlap, but are not synonymous. E.g., the Pumpkin Patch is a fundraiser, whereas Stewardship implies a much deeper commitment of time, talent, and responsibility to safeguard resources, including the building, people and reputation. Members discussed how and where to categorize Stewardship versus Fundraising in the organizational structure. Questions included whether to make Fundraising separate, but with a link to Finance; make Stewardship and Fundraising two separate committees, but leave them where they are in the structure; rename Fundraisers as Development; keep Stewardship as a Team. If not making policy recommendations, then they don’t need to be committees; they can be Teams. More consideration needed.

**Governance Structure Evaluation (Laura)** – Now that we are halfway through the year, it is time for the Board to evaluate the governance structure. Laura will create a survey to send to chairs, subcommittee chairs, and team leaders.

**Apartment Rental Agreement (Laura)** – Connie recommended changes (in red) to the language of letter to be sent to the Town of Huntington attorney asking for confirmation of our exemption to needing a rental permit. Laura to send on behalf of the Board.

**Finance (Allyson)** – Currently \$8,400 in the red. Pledges come in slowly. Income at this time of year is low. Rental income is a concern. By January, we will be missing \$19,000 of rental income due to no classroom rentals. Sustainability has \$36K on the books. Ministerial Discretionary Fund balance is \$16,437, not \$13,000. There is a new Board reserve fund for \$9,990 for AV equipment that was donated anonymously. Also have \$1,000 gift from members for “where it is most needed,” that was put into Sustainability. Pledge statements went out last week.

**Jewish Synagogue (Madelyn)** – No update about interest in renting our space.