

July 18, 2023
Borderlands UU
Board Meeting

Present on Zoom: Russ Peterson, Lorelei Schober, Deb Mitchell, Marilyn Taylor, Kathleen Creten, John Kron, Ken Lopez, Diane Farone, Charlie Goleca, Jeanne Macauley, Judy Sullivan, Jermain Lowe, Martha House

Chalice Lighting – Russ Peterson

Question – Should “check ins” be continued? Reactions of those present were varied. No conclusion was reached

President’s Report - In June Susan and I drove to GA in Pittsburgh, PA. . The worthwhile sessions included congregational issues, music, and voting to approve Article 2. Discuss on that will continue.

Approval of the June Meeting - The approval of the minutes was unanimous. The minutes are stored in the Website in the members only section.

Treasurer’s Report The current and year’s end budgets will be sent in separate emails.

Successes

- Large amount of endowment revenue received in the amount of \$98976.38.
- Generous donations to the meditation garden
- Pledge income greatly surpassed pledges made (Some pledgers increased their giving after feeling more positive about the congregation's momentum)
- Many pledgers made up their prior year shortfall.
- The Sunday plate more than doubled what we anticipated receiving
- Fundraising was very successful.
- We received more rental income than anticipated due to the Amado Youth Center's construction delays.
- We spent less on personnel overall because of having a minister just part of the year.
- 50% plate share was covered by increased Sunday plate giving.
- We spent over \$2,000 less on pulpit supply and Sunday speakers than budgeted for.

Challenges

- Expenditures in building and grounds exceeded budgeted amounts in most categories with a total overage of just under \$3000.
- Copier expenses exceeded budgeted amounts, in part because of increased usage post Covid. We've terminated the rental agreement and have purchased the equipment.

Observations

- Meditation garden construction expenses were largely covered by meditation garden donations.
- Our office manager expense went up in part due to a small pay increase as well as post Covid heavier work load.
- We have validated that our music program is a priority and this year some expenses associated with that went up and some went down. We will work on adjusting for that going forward.
- We budgeted \$54,690 from the Canoa land sale but no funds were transferred from that account into our general funds in this fiscal year (2022-2023). We did not need those monies to meet our 2022-2023 expenses.
- **We had a net overage of \$56,659.90.**

Old Business

Endorsement of the ADA requirements. Because of our desire to be inclusive to all persons, particularly those with physical challenges, the board is requiring BUU and its committees to follow ADA guidelines in all projects to the extent feasible. At times, fiscal and physical constraints will limit our ability to be in compliance (e.g., bathrooms being too small to accommodate wheelchairs turning around). This includes projects that the committee initiates and those projects that the board requests. A current request from the board is to bring restroom signage into ADA compliance. The motion passed unanimously.

Not in the motion, but to be mentioned in the minutes that Deb Mitchell is available to consult with committees engaged in projects in order to integrate ADA guidelines.

New Business

Building and Grounds Ken Lopez reported that there has been positive response to the paved parking areas. They need to be reserved for handicapped and persons with limited mobility. The garden has been surviving despite the heat.

Outreach Committee -Barbara Lemmon sent committee charts that are summarized here.Kristin Blum is a committee member.

Committee Purpose:

****commitment to accompanying our fellow human beings and standing up for social justice reflected in the work that each of our BUU members and friends does individually and when we come together as a group. Engage in social/Social Justice issues:**

1. ****expanding opportunities to learn more about our Amado community and the things we**

can do to support the community and surrounding region and its people through caring,

2. **connect more to border issues

Goals to Achieve Purpose (General)

1. Attend Amado Chili Cook-off meetings and leads the cook recruitment team for the annual fundraiser to benefit the Amado Youth Center.
2. Continue expanding opportunities to learn more about our Amado community and the things we can do to support the community and surrounding region and its people through acts of care
3. Support Humanitarian Aid groups serving border activist groups.

Goals to Achieve Purpose (General).

1. Assemble activity kits for migrant children Twice done, another session planned.\$1500 donation , left \$348.84.
2. Amado trip with Tony Bruno cancelled due to health emergency.
- 3.Learn of border work in Nogales, MX . Rita Danks guest speaker, August 14.
4. Bean bags chairs for Amado Youth Center. \$425 raised.
5. Poster card voter campaign UUAZ donation of \$500.Honored as “Good Trouble Congregation” as a result.
- 6.Speaker Jenine Gelsinger of UUAZ ,June 11

Update on proposed committees – Next meeting is August 1 at 1 PM to discuss this will be. Russ Peterson reported that a meeting of committee chairs, board of directors and others met and discussed committee organization. The proposed Standing Committees will continue-Finance, Building and Grounds Worship Spiritual Enrichment, Lay Pastoral Care and Membership.

Proposed new standing committees will be: 1. Communication to include Unitel and advertising. 2.Technical Committee to include Website and technical support for services and meetings, 3.Peronnel to include pastoral relations. 4 Congregation Life to replace Inreach to include the following functions; Caring Clusters, Lean on Me. 5. Justice and Witness to replace Outreach and include all initiatives to work for justice and improve life in surrounding communities.

Standing committees would have announced meeting schedules posted in the BUU calendar and the Unitel. The Vice President will monitor the work of committees and call meetings of the Coordinating Council which would be comprised of the chairs of the standing committees.

Committee Fair Lorelei Schober will chair the fair to be held in mid October. The purpose will be to inform people of the committee services and to recruit new members for committee.

Transitions Task Force It was unanimously voted that the President will establish that.

Celebrating Our Anniversary In 1993 our congregation was incorporated but earlier met in various locations. We purchased our current church in Amado Territory that we own debt free. A committee will be formed to plan how we would celebrate. Marcia Weary is our remaining founding member.

Worship Arts Funding Chair Diane Farone proposed the following transfer of funds from the ministerial funds. The proposal was approved. The treasurer, Jermaine and Chair of Arts will reconfigure the budget making these changes. It is assumed that we will meet 53 Sundays a year with a Music Director for 9 months and a choir singing two Sundays in October through May plus Christmas Eve. There will be five Sundays with no music. Guest ministers will be paid out of this budget three Sundays a month. Ministers will be paid \$300 per Sunday as UUA suggests and other speakers will receive \$200 a Sunday.

Under this schedule we will have 27 services with pulpit supply, four BAJA 4 pulpit palooza and 22 lay led for a total of 53 Sundays. This will increase the Worship Arts costs by \$8,500 which will be transferred from the total budgeted for a minister as well three thousand from the Music Director line. This will change if we hire a minister.

Account	FY 2024 Budget from ICON	Proposed
Music Director	13,000	10,000
Accompanist	5,200	8,600
Guest Musician	200	0
Music Supplies	100	200
Piano tuning	200	300
Pulpit Supply	300	8,100
Sunday Speakers	500	800
Totals	19,500	28,000

Minutes of the July 18, 2023 Borderlands UU congregation sent July 25 to the Board of Directors on July 26, 2023. Spreadsheets for June and the Annual Budget will be send in separate emails. Marilyn Taylor, Board Secretary.