

UUCM Leadership Team / Board
Meeting minutes Jan. 26, 2022 via Zoom at 6:30pm

Present: Nancy Burton, Janet Hiller, Trish Schneider, Rev. Tony Lorenzen **Guest:** Mark Kosnoff

Mark Kosnoff re: using office space at UUCM for United Action CT (UACT)

UACT is prepared to pay rent at \$100 per month.

Office space will be provided in-kind for five months to offset the \$500 dues assessment.

UACT will have access to the sanctuary for larger meetings, subject to availability.

A current focus of UACT: the Alliance for Domestic Workers. Meetings will be held for such workers in order to apprise them of their rights.

Users of the UACT office will clean their own space and make sure other church space they've used is left clean.

Note: Trish, Nancy, and Mark will meet at the church to take a dresser and desk to Goodwill.

Board minutes of January 3 and January 12, 2022 were approved by consensus.

Treasurer: Trish's report was approved by consensus.

Opportunities to get involved/Stone Soup Lunch:

Trish will create a list of opportunities to get involved; she'll post a few every couple of weeks in the newsletter.

Trish suggested a soup swap. This segued into a short discussion re: the **Stone Soup luncheon Feb. 13.**

SJC will facilitate the Feb. 13 service and isn't yet sure whether it will be hybrid or Zoom only.

Discussion re: who might make the soup.

Ordination of Lynne Ford (formerly Lynne Grobsky):

Will take place in late May or early June.

Rev. Tony: These are much simpler than before the pandemic: online invitations, potluck meals.

MUUS could host in their space, which is larger than UUCM's.

Someone from UUCM should join the team with Lynne and MUUS. Diane Szymaszek?

UUCM is the sponsoring congregation, and as such, should provide a gift to Lynne.

Someone from UUCM will need to attend in order to read the sponsor's speech.

Debrief re: Zoom meeting with All Souls New London and Hilary Allen, UUA rep:

Nancy: It appears that what Rev. Patierno has in mind is a mentoring relationship, not a partnership/satellite relationship, which we were anticipating.

Rev. Tony: We could use their help with membership, which would help Donna Stimpson.

Trish is interested in working with ASNL's treasurer.

Rev. Tony was encouraged; thinks we got "a serious commitment" from Rev. Patierno; she's interested in working with us. We've "gone from ideas to progress."

Rev. Tony: Some of the Leap of Faith program could apply to us.

Can we afford to keep Rev. Tony for next fiscal year?

Have a contract for less than half time? He will consider it. His services would be limited: one worship service per month plus one Board meeting and probably a meeting with one other group. It wouldn't include pastoral care. Note: Don't let one or two large donors pay for the minister. A funding campaign

is also probably not a good idea. We'll go over all this at the January 30 congregational conversation (Zoom, after worship).

Communication:

The board was impressed by Hannah Berg's presentation. We'll call a meeting of congregants who are interested in following up on her outline. Possible participants: Donna Stimpson, Diane Szymaszek, Jane Dioguardi, Jeff May, Peg Kirkpatrick. Need an organizer for this effort.

Trish will send the board a document from the Church of the Larger Fellowship on this topic.

UUA certification for UUCM is nearly complete; Nancy, Trish, and Janet will meet Jan. 28 to complete it.

Request for notes, cards of appreciation to hospital personnel: Nancy will write a notice for the next newsletter. She'll also contact Kathy Lindberg.

Councilman Mike Rohde's **racial justice alliance:** we'll send this to SJC.

Rental request from a New Haven church: No response to Rev. Tony's attempt to contact them.

UUA dues:

Trish thinks we can pay an additional \$500, for a total of \$1,000. Being less than a fair-share congregation makes us ineligible for grants and loans from the UUA. We'll speak to the congregation about this at the Jan. 30 meeting.

Roof replacement campaign: We have no cost estimates yet, so this is on hold.

Security system: The whole system will have to be replaced. Nancy: This is critical. Trish will ask Sandy if any action has been taken.

Tasks:

Nancy, Trish and Mark Kosnoff will take a dresser and desk from the UACT office space to Goodwill.

Nancy will send the newsletter/Friday update a notice asking congregants to send notes or cards thanking hospital personnel if they wish to.

Trish will ask Sandy Duffy if any action has been taken re: replacing the security system.

Trish will create a list of opportunities for congregants to get involved; she'll post a few every couple of weeks in the newsletter/Friday Update.

Trish will send the board a document on communication from the Church of the Larger Fellowship.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. Next meeting: Wednesday Feb. 9 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted, Janet Hiller