

MST Board report

March 4, 2021

We are in the final stages of vetting pre-candidates. For every one of them, we spend 30 – 45 minutes each with 5 or 6 reference people before spending extensive time in our second round with the ministers themselves. This second round includes more casual, getting to know you time together as well as deeper questioning on both sides. We also present our videos of Michigan, Grand Traverse, and UUCGT.

This year of search is valuable in many ways and we remain hopeful that it will conclude successfully.

UUCGT PROGRAM COUNCIL MINUTES

January 8, 2021, 3:00 - 4:30 pm

Attending: Rick Walter, **Chair, Stewardship Team Chair**; Chris Walter, **Scribe, MST**; Emmy Lou Cholak, **Social Justice Action**; Sandra McDonald, **Community Needs, Safe Harbor, LDC**; Mary Ann Rivers, **President BOT**; Chris Lautz, **Membership**; Amanda Mangiardi, **Sunday Services, Congregational Care**; *Richard Miller, Memorial Garden*; Jane Watts; Misty Sheehan, **Green Sanctuary, Sunday Services**

Candle Lighting, Ringing of the bell - Rick Walter

Welcome all - Good to be together to support one another.

A G E N D A

Chris Lautz motioned, Mary Ann Seconded, all approved Minutes from Dec 11, 2020 meeting.

Personal and Committee Check-In:

Amanda - Has a lot of fear about the next couple of weeks; Sunday Services reports that Tom Darnton will be Tech 2 person, very grateful. Things going very well. Congregational Care - Donated \$4,000 to the newly established Discretionary Fund for Cathy to manage.

Rick - philosophizing - this is so important for our congregation, but also for Ministerial Search Team to be able to share with applicant ministers.

Richard Miller - Sign up for vaccinations through GT County Health Dept site, will be kept informed. Feeling fine even with the horror of Wednesday in nation's capitol. No committee news, all quiet.

Rick - Also discovered on the County Health Dept site last night that you can sign up with name, phone #, they will call back to get info for the form they are developing.

Sandra - Mike attended the weekly area emergency committee today and learned there is a waiting list for Covid vaccinations. It might be at least a

month before people start getting called. The Health Dept is struggling just to manage, not enough people to help. She believes it will be late next Fall until everyone can be vaccinated. Sandra is worried about the inauguration. Trump announced he won't be there, but that's good.

Sandra - Hospitality is very quiet; Wed Happy Hour going along, chat for an hour every week. **LDC** starting very soon to work on nominations for election to Board. Rick mentioned that Cathy will do a Leadership workshop coming up for congregants. **Community Needs** - hopefully we'll have money to donate this time; Some of \$\$ we gave to Safe Harbor might be coming back. Let us know of any needs.

Misty has an appointment in Manistee for her inoculation and she is willing to drive an hour to get it. Kalkaska also has openings, nothing else to share. We just need to support Biden in the things he wants to accomplish.

Green Sanctuary - no current meetings

Mary Ann - Does our Green Sanctuary status need to be renewed? Misty checked with UUA, it's optional, and she was directed to a web page about churches that could provide support.

Emmy Lou - Not surprised about what happened Wednesday; Unfortunately some of the police were on the side of the rioters. Disappointed about the Congressional reps who keep supporting Trump. Some of her Meals on Wheels clients think the election was fraudulent, they don't have the information we have.

Welcoming Congregation is getting renewed, ELC will check with Amanda M., Pam H., Betsy H. and Clair for needed input. Also need to make a sizable donation to an LGBTQ organization. Sandra mentioned UUCGT through Community Needs donated \$500 - \$1,000 to Polestar Summer 2020. Emmy Lou reiterated some information about the family who returned from Mexico - she hopes additional individuals will still donate to this families support to repay her instantaneous support to get them out of Mexico. Emmy Lou is still here and feisty, and will take the vaccine when she can.

Jane Watts - Still has pulled muscle; Not representing any specific group; On Membership with Chris Lautz and totally supports that work. One house in their subdivision has had 3 huge Trump signs in yard, until this morning. Hooray! Talked to Guy the other day - both agree, that when UUCGT Directory is together, it will be online. Guy is still working on it, and

it still has far too many names on it. Rick asked if there is a concern about access of those addresses, etc online. Many stated it will be password protected. Financial records should also be password protected.

Chris Lautz - Hanging in there, Walking for sanity, blessed with so many great walking paths and trails, without a mask, pretending things are normal. **Membership**, nothing new since last month.

Rick - Stewardship, End of Year Campaign - 37+ people contributed; \$13,300 donated, available to Finance Committee to beef up financial status. Stew Committee will write personal thank you to all who contributed. Sloan couple from Elk Rapids have been attending Services, and they made a donation, including the gentleman who presented the Board workshop in the Fall. A brochure for 2021-2022 Pledge Drive is being spear-headed by Mary Ann.

Mary Ann - Board approved policy of Program Council and it is now in the Manual. Stewardship Brochure will tell people how money will be used, and how it supports our Mission. **Karl** - Pie chart will illustrate how money is distributed in categories, and there will be a tithing message/levels.

Endowment - Note from Ellie that committee has not met, will have report in February.

Amanda - COVID exposure at Safe Harbor from 2 volunteers; Betsy Hammerberg was exposed this past week, was tested, will get results Monday. Renee is a long-hauler, ongoing systemic issues, seeing a specialist, shortness of breath, tired, some other health issues; Had Covid Toe (inflammation in toes and feet, red and pain).

Thanks to all for attending.

Adjourned 3:51 pm

Next Meeting - Feb 12, 3:00 pm

UUCGT Reopening Plan

Introduction

Sources

Principles and Assumptions

Metrics for phased reopening

Risk level or reopening phase? County or Region ? County/region
vaccination level?

Minister and Staff safety

Vaccination status, remote option based on risk

Sunday Services

Hybrid (live streaming)

Limited attendance

Masking and social distancing

VE

Special Services (funerals)

Minister, staff, and volunteers vaccinated,

Max 25, masked and socially distanced

Meetings

Children's RE

Outdoor guidelines

Adult RE

Hospitality

Child Care

Facility Rentals

Facility Cleaning