

CLUUC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**March 21, 2017****Action Items:**

WHO	WHAT	WHEN
Dave	Carry information to Environmental Justice and Endowment	
Dave	Schedule a special Board meeting only about Sanctuary. Invite the Sanctuary team. Collect Board questions ahead of time and send to team. The Sanctuary Team will put the Board group email on their listserv.	
Melissa	Write article following up Name Survey, referencing	
Melissa	Write item encouraging individuals to sign onto the Statement of Conscience.	
Melissa	Summarize the highlights for Board Matters	Soon

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present: Jim Anderson (Chair Elect), Greg Falcigno (Secretary), Dave Hawver (Chair), Jack Welch (Treasurer), Brent Garland, Linda Gianessi, Melissa Reichley (Communications), Gail Riley, Ariel Mora, Gwen Warman, Carol Bertaut (Assistant Treasurer)

Board Members Absent: Emily Mellgren

Staff Present: Rev. Abhi Janamanchi, Sara Deshler

Others Present: Lyn Peters, Jim Kelley, Ron Outen, R Anderson, Dianne Seiffert

Opening: The meeting convened at 7:32 p.m. with centering words, chalice lighting, covenant reading and check-in.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Appendix A (website) - Board Meeting Minutes 21 FEB 2017
- Appendix B (website) - Senior Minister's Report - Feb. 21, 2017
- Appendix C (website) - Executive Director Report 02.13.17
- Appendix D (website) - Executive Director's Dashboard Feb 2017
- Appendix F (website) - CLUUC Signs On To UUA-UUSC Declaration of Conscience
- Appendix H (website) - GA Delegate Nominees 2017
- Appendix I (website) - Senior Staff Report - March 2017
- Appendix J (website) - Executive Director's Dashboard March 2017

NOTE: Rev Michelle's March report was received shortly before this meeting: it will be included in the April meeting packet.

Dave asked for, and received, unanimous consent for the approval of the Consent Agenda.

Other Reports received by the Board:

- Appendix E (website) - Investment Policies and Fossil Fuels
- Appendix G (website) - Board and Staff Priorities 2017-2018
- Appendix K (website) - Being a Sanctuary Congregation - March 2017
- Appendix L (website) - Conflict of Interest Policy Final Draft 3-15-17.docx
- Appendix M (website) - A Range of Comments to Cedar Lane's Name Survey, February 2017

Board Business:

Governance Committee: Conflict of Interest Policy

Jim presented the motivations for having Appendix L as a conflict of interest policy, including moral, democratic, tax-related, and legal. References to Hotchkiss' Governance by Policy book, pp 178-180 discusses conflicts of interest. Among other things, it references "stayexempt.irs.gov", from which the committee derived source material.

The one page statement referenced in the policy is in draft form.

This policy replaces the current single paragraph in the policy manual.

Questions:

- Is it necessary or overkill for the staff to sign such a statement annually? It seems a logical part of the Personnel Manual, which is not currently signed annually. Answer: Gov Com thinks necessary for considerations like IRS audit.
- Is this something the Board needs to approve, and is the Committee asking the Board to approve the draft presented? Answer: yes to both questions.
- Why would multiple family members on the Board of Trustees be a conflict of interest? Answer: issue of voting in concert: the law assumes families act in concert.

The Board will mull over the policy and expects discussion and vote on next month's agenda.

Sanctuary Update

Abhi, Ron, and Dianne reviewed Appendix K. In this climate of anxiety, fear, and uncertainty in immigrant communities. Montgomery County has perhaps one hundred thousand undocumented immigrants, and it calls for spiritual communities to stand up against these unjust practices. Sanctuary DMV had its formal inauguration today, 70 congregations making this commitment to communities under threat and facing acts of hate.

Part of the commitment we should make is to commit to preparing ourselves to be a physical sanctuary.

The team is asking the Board to vote Yes on commitment to Sanctuary Congregation, before the April process of discernment on social justice and decision making at the end of April.

There is a need for a Sanctuary DMV network congregation to have appropriate facilities: Cedar Lane is in a good position compared to most. The team also assessed the legal risk, finding that CLUUC could be subject to small fines, that individuals could be subject to arrest or such for advocacy actions. In terms of regulatory compliance, the team has reviewed our insurance for exclusions, is reviewing county occupancy and safety regulations.

Strictly speaking, there is no legal basis for church sanctuary. And there is a federal law prohibiting harboring illegals. A related precedent is that harboring requires hiding: therefore the need to be loud in publicity.

The network includes a referral, screening process where a sanctuary can set criteria to steer toward or away particular situations. For example, people with a scheduled deportation hearing with a good chance of prevailing,

In order to not be all consuming, the effort for a physical sanctuary would require leadership different from the

staff: increased security, increased PR, etc. New policies need development, e.g. guest qualification, right relations with guests. The cost is not yet quantified.

The team is developing methods and schedule for reaching consensus on this.

The Board would schedule a congregational meeting. The next scheduled one is the May 21 Annual Meeting, which the team recommends is too late. The need is more pressing.

The Board will schedule a special Board meeting for just this subject.

Election of Chair and Chair-Elect

Given that no other nominees were registered with the Chair, and that Jim did not withdraw his nomination, Dave called for a voice vote on Jim for next Board Chair. The committee as specified in the policy manual placed Gail Riley's name in nomination for Chair Elect. No other nominations were offered.

Name Survey results—Next Steps?

Discussion included that

- there is really no room on the calendar for a conversation between now and the Annual Meeting, given Bylaws, Sanctuary, and other conversations. Perhaps June. Perhaps September.
- The motivation was to give some type of closure following the survey.
- How about a newsletter article now instead of a conversation, or that references a conversation to come later?

Decided that Melissa would issue an article, referencing the potential for this to come back up next church year.

Proposal from Environmental Justice Team to Divest from Fossil Fuels

Linda remarked that the similar policy for the Common Endowment has resulted in ~20% ESG investments. Greg responded that the way the current draft is written does not specify a numeric goal, only that managers consider when it is practical, and directs them to report on ESG opportunities they do or do not take advantage of.

Gwen added that the Common Endowment was influenced by the decision at GA to not direct full divestment, instead to stay invested in certain organizations in order to advocate as shareholders.

Stewardship Campaign Update - Board Pledges, Flame Height

Sara reviewed the information in the Executive Director's report, and that pledging is ahead of last year. Up to 728 members now!

Review of Board and Staff priorities established at the March 4 Board Retreat

Removed from agenda for lack of time.

Board Decisions (include motions passed):

1. "I move that the Board have a congregational conversation regarding the CLUUC name, and that the conversation be clearly advertised as a forum for understanding the full spectrum of strong feelings expressed during the Board's survey, with no intention of making a change during this church year."

Melissa moved, Ariel seconded. The vote was 8 to 1. The motion passed.

2. “I move that the Board respond to the Environmental Justice Ministry’s letter of Dec 2016 by sending Appendix E, a proposed Policy Manual change, to both the Endowment Committee and Environmental Justice Ministry. After soliciting their feedback, expected for the June 2017 meeting, the Board could consider the matter again.”

Gail moved, Carol seconded. The vote was unanimous. The motion passes.

3. “All those in favor of Jim Anderson becoming Chair say aye.”

Dave offered this call for a vote on the election of the next Chair. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

4. “I move that Gail Riley become the Chair Elect.”

Jim moved, Brent seconded. The vote was unanimous. The motion passed.

GBP Process Check: (Gail)

Pro	Con
Recovered well on time after allowing guests to take more than scheduled time, on very substantial topics.	Some stress on particular discussions, speaking over each other.
High energy	

Closing words by Gail

Adjournment at 9:40 p.m.

Calendar Items:

- March Abhi’s first save-the-date for 2 week India trip
- March 26, 4pm - Pratima Dharm Ordination and Dinner
- April 1, 9 am - 3:30 pm CER Leadership Day and UUA Presidential Forum
Register at: <https://www.uua.org/central-east/programs/better-together-central-east-region-leadership-day-and-uua-presidential>
- April 18, 7:30 - 9:30 pm Board Meeting
- May 13, 9 - 3 pm Intercultural Competency Training
- May 16, 7:30 - 9:30 pm Board Meeting
- May 21, 12:45 - 2:30 pm Annual Meeting
- June 2, 7 - 9:30 pm Board Dinner for Incoming/Outgoing Members: Chalice House
- June 3, 9 am - 3 pm Board Retreat for New Board: Chalice House
- June 27, 7:30 - 9:30 pm Board Meeting

