

UNITY CHURCH OF TRUTH
14402 PROSPECT AVENUE
TUSTIN, CA 92780
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 16 , 2021

OPENING PRAYER:

Craig led the board in opening prayer.

CALL TO ORDER:

Jim called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

ROLL CALL: All via Zoom

Connie Carter (2021)	Jim DeFontes ()
Lisa Kolibar ()	Todd Boppell ()
Erin Hostetler ()	Steve Stoeckel (2021)
Mary Jeanne Hawes (Ministry Director)	Craig Phillips, Sacred Ministry

MOTIONS:

Agenda Approval:

Todd moved and was seconded that the agenda (Exhibit A) be approved as amended. The motion passed.

Minutes Approval:

Jim moved and was seconded that the minutes from 3-2-21 be approved as presented. The motion passed.

Review of Action Items:

Erin led a review of last week's action items. All were complete or in process. Jim suggested having someone monitor the Sunday service livestream to make sure everything is functioning properly. Jim will reach out to Harvey Beery to see if he is interested in serving in that capacity.

President's Report:

Jim reported that our current state remains stable; our attendance is growing – 130 people attended last service. Collections remain nominal, will grow.

Workshops and Wednesday talks are well-received. He would like to use interested young adults as a web design focus group. Joan Hill passed; the Board offered all assistance for a memorial service, including the campus as venue.

Spiritual Ministry Team Report:

Craig reported on the SMT meeting, stating that they did not feel it was important for them to have a vote in Board meetings, nor was it necessary for one of their members to attend a Board meeting on a quarterly basis. Blair has been in contact with Unity Worldwide Ministries, notifying them of UOTs leadership structure. Craig covered the subject of Spiritual Activism within the church, saying that the vision was unfolding and evolving. He recommended watching a PBS program on the history of the Black church and “Many Rivers to Cross”, by Henry Louis Gates. The dates for Conscious Conversation have been scheduled. The monthly spiritual powers have been determined. They spoke of recording workshops, charging for them, asking \$10 per session. The SMT preferred to continue outdoors until there was a natural pull to return to indoor services.

Ministry Director’s Report:

Mary Jeanne met today with Joe Hill about Joan’s Memorial of Life. Mary Jeanne sent out renewal of membership notices. She is working with people considering becoming members. She spoke of the membership classes, ceremony to be held on April 11. She ordered signs with brochure holders, created brochures, will have them placed in the Gardens before Sunday.

Financial Report:

Todd presented UOT’s financial situation. The large gift in January has continued to be helpful. He showed the February financials, with cash run rate slightly lower than January.

Spending Priority:

Todd presented the results of the spreadsheet. He had broken down each proposed category by each board member, and across all of categories. The board discussed walking through the process and system of giving value to each line item. Todd proposed limiting comment on each tab to two or three people, rather than all members addressing each item. This will be presented in three weeks at the next meeting. Steve suggested presenting the needs list to the community, allowing them to contribute to areas that call to them, and as a means of providing transparency. Lisa pointed out that we are contemplating additional monthly costs that will increase our deficit. Todd will send out the marketing proposal for the board to rank, similar to the spending priority piece.

IDG Website contract:

Todd, MJ, Christy, and Erin have been scrutinizing our current website, finding it to be too verbose, and not designed with audience personas in mind. We need to determine who is using the website, and for what reasons. IDG price proposal is dependent on the number of pages they will deliver. Todd showed areas where existing website pages can be combined or deleted entirely. Social media and promoting is designed to pique interest and drive people to the website, so those efforts will follow the website creation. Todd will create the website focus group, including the team members who are already involved. The focus group can do some of IDG's proposed tasks before they are brought in, reducing IDG's costs, and tightly focusing their scope. He will consolidate his findings by early next month, present it to IDG, and get a new estimate from them. He will involve the Board's input when applicable.

Web Design – Community Involvement:

Jim spoke to the concept of transparency, and named potential people to offer input. Todd will draft a letter to the community, telling them we are doing a website renovation and asking for input and feedback. This would create the existing member persona, in addition to the new/prospective persona.

YFM Leadership:

Jim spoke about opening the position, determining hours and pay, having offline discussions over the next three weeks, and returning to the board with a concrete proposal. Erin reiterated her interest in the position.

By-law Revision review:

Mary Jeanne reported on her meeting with Kirk Reeves. They worked on verbiage, using the UWM template as a guide. Jim and Todd had a conversation, and suggested focusing on the most pressing issues first, along with a few "no brainers", then moving on to the next most pressing. By doing it piecemeal rather than the entire revision at once, it reduces the danger of voting down the whole thing over one controversial issue. The Board Member election process was determined to be the first item for revision.

By-law revision – Community Involvement:

Jim wants to always be transparent and include the community. Erin created a proposed three-phase process for revising the by-laws, including a Bylaw Committee. Mary Jeanne would be the leader; she will continue to work with Kirk. The community member component would be in the editing realm, rather than the authoring.

Groups Requesting to Meet Inside:

Todd shared current Covid status and opening guidelines. Orange County is in Tier 3, moving towards Tier 2. Church occupancy is 50% in Tiers 2 and 1, which will be the maximum occupancy for the foreseeable future. All indoor singers would need to wear masks. Mary Jeanne reported that the Tuesday AM Mystical Bible Study class of approximately 10 people would like to meet in the Sanctuary. All current CDC/California Tier 3-2-1 protocols would be followed. The Thursday PM OC Meditation Group would also like to resume meeting in the Sanctuary. Jim and Mary Jeanne will have a conversation with the group leader regarding following protocols, allowed day of the week, and future leader integrity. AA groups are welcome, but have not requested returning. Erin requested holding Movie Night in the Sanctuary.

Property & Grounds:

Postponed due to time constraints.

Prosperity:

Postponed due to time constraints.

Marketing/information Pamphlet:

Previously covered.

Social media Management:

Postponed due to time constraints.

Review Action Items

Action Items assigned this meeting

ACTION ITEM:

ACTION ITEM: *Jim*

- Reach out to Harvey Beery to see if he will monitor the Sunday service livestream
- Have conversation with OC Meditation Group leader

ACTION ITEM: *Erin*

ACTION ITEM: *Lisa*

ACTION ITEM: *Steve*

ACTION ITEM: *Todd*

- Revisit the Spending Priority Spreadsheet, present results at next board meeting
- Create website focus group
- Draft letter to community, inviting input on website design

ACTION ITEM: *Connie*

ACTION ITEM: *Mary Jeanne*

- Have conversation with OC Meditation Group leader

Dates for Future Board Meetings

Tuesday April 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

CHECK OUT

● **Closing Prayer & Adjournment**

Steve led the Board in the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned by Jim at 8:45 PM

Connie Carter

Secretary