

CHANNING CHURCH

Board Meeting

June 16, 2009

PRESENT: Chris Yalanis, Russ Milham, Walt Chaffin, Don Mallinson, Jake Smith, Chris Laudon, Coles Mallory, Kim Shute, David Pedrick, Jim Freese, Bill Hawkin, Sue VanDerhoof.

STAFF: Amy Freedman

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Sue VanDerhoof

The minutes of our May meeting were approved without correction. Russ motioned, Don seconded.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Chris Yalanis

Chris welcomed all of the new board members and thanked those who are stepping down. He reviewed the process for submitting items for the agenda and using the two web sites. He also announced that we have \$13,000 toward our 10th bell.

PROEPRTY UPDATE – Chris Laudon

The scaffolding is almost up to the top of steeple and then the finial will come down and may be put inside church. It needs to be inspected. The construction yard is enclosed—tool storage trailer will arrive tomorrow. Pam Giroux had a Hill Assoc. meeting and asked Chris to speak to them about the project. So everyone knows what is going on.

The Gnazzo Co. will rent the Channing House apartment at least through July. We need to work out a lease which will be on a month-to-month basis.

Russ brought up the issue of getting fire extinguishers inspected so we get the bill this month.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE – Don Mallinson

The following have been approved and put on the calendar (money raising)
Aug. 9th – After Church Brunch Jake & Anna Smith are hosting and we are requiring people pay in advance.

Oct. 4 & Jan.4 – Before Church Breakfast

Sept. 12th - Walden Pond 2

B & B Weekend – Channing members to host a B&B weekend. Will be in the spring.

Service Auction – November 7th looking for a team leader

Music Series to be scheduled – John Burnham

Ebay auction training conducted by Jim in July

The committee felt there should be fundraising guidelines. Chris Y. said he trusts the Stewardship Committee to decide what will work and what won't and what needs to be brought before the board. Kim suggested that we stay away from developing more rules and regulations formally.

Chris asked about the raffle. Don said there was only one vote for the raffle. The committee is pursuing the 5 top vote getting ideas.

PLEDGE SECRETARY – Bill Hawkin

Everything is looking good. Present pledge year 2 weeks left and we have received about \$148,000 out of \$168,000. There is maybe another \$4,000 more coming in pledges and Bill is emailing to make sure people are sincere. Almost 90% of the pledges are in. We should at least make the 95% mark. We have already received about \$12,000 toward next year's pledges.

For the Capital Campaign we are still at \$186,000. We have received about \$109,000 already and may have up to \$200,000 by the end of the year. Kim will include pledge forms with new member packets. Chris Y suggested that a membership person can pass the name along to the appropriate person to canvass the new member.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Coles

Coles brought up only one item regarding the 10th bell. Expenditures for the church do not prioritize the 10th bell. Bill asked that something be written or publicized about why we would want a 10th bell.

MINISTER'S REPORT – Amy

Please see report attached to the end of the minutes

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Jake Smith

Jake volunteered to serve as Financial Secretary for the upcoming church year. Jake recommended having the Power Church software that would allow remote access. The cost would be \$350 to buy the program. Coles motioned to accept Jakes kind offer of becoming the temporary Financial Secretary and authorize Bill and Jake to make a decision regarding technology using Power Church. Chris Laudon seconded. The motion passed with Russ abstaining.

Jake said the Board needs to nominate 2 other people beside Joy & Nancy Peresta for the Nominating Committee. Formal part of the canvass should be asking what people want to do. Chris L. suggested Kelly Bailey, Sondra Gold, Ellen Bliss,

OTHER BUSINESS

Chris Y. encouraged the Board to review the strategic plan before next month's board meeting. Normal Board meetings will be 2nd Tuesdays . August meeting at Yalanis at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dish. 83 Windstone Drive, Portsmouth.

Minister's Report

Rev. Amy B. Freedman
Channing Memorial Church

This report covers the period of May 1- June 16, 2009

Minister's Summer Schedule

I am not attending General Assembly this year because of Liza. June 22- August 3 is my Vacation/Study Leave. I will return to church on August 4. Both Michele Dubuc and Nickie Kates will always know how to reach me in case of emergency.

Summer Church Office Hours

PLEASE NOTE

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:30AM-12:30PM

Michele Dubuc will check voice mail daily and email periodically through out the summer.

Adult Enrichment

Recent discussions held after services have been well-attended. We had engaging discussion about the UUA Presidential Elections one Sunday and Religious Humanism on another. Five people attended the showing and discussion of Rashid Khalidi's 2007 Ware Lecture. The Cold War with Iraq was an important topic and we discussed how to engage more people with the issues in the Middle East. The Rinpoche will resume his teachings in the Fall.

Bed & Breakfast

The Stewardship Committee decided to move forward with a B&B weekend during the Newport International Boat Show, September 17-20, 2009. In researching the publicity, I found that it will be almost impossible for us to inform other Unitarian Universalists as many congregations do not have summer services or summer newsletters and September will be too late for folks to make travel arrangements. I recommend that we plan this event for the Spring perhaps linked to another local event with some special programming at Channing. This will give us more time to recruit hosts and to spread the word.

Channing Bookstore and Library

New books have been ordered for our UU Bookstore in Channing House. Come check out the new titles! I recently sent back several books that have remained unsold for many years to refresh our stock.

Trevor Maloof has recently begun attending Channing Church. He is a lifelong UU and recent college graduate who will be entering Graduate School for Library Science. I have recruited him to help organize and improve our Library.

Church Calendar 2009-10

On Sunday, June 14, lay leaders and staff gathered in the Ladies' Parlor to plan for the 2009-2010 Church year. Michele will prepare a draft calendar for all church leaders by late August. Any scheduling changes or additions should go through the church office.

Ingathering and Open House

Halcyon and I will be hosting a special Open House for families on **Saturday, September 12, 9:00am-Noon in the Parish Hall**. This will be an opportunity for folks to drop by, see our facilities, meet church leaders, and learn about our programs. If you have ideas about how to spread the word or would like to help greet, please let me know.

Our **Ingathering Service and traditional Open House will be held on Sunday, September 13**. Church leaders are encouraged to have flyers listing opportunities and events in your area of church life.

Rites of Passage

Saturday, May 2, 11:00am, Blessing Ceremony~ Lillian Dwyer Grandolfi, Channing Church

Saturday, May 2, 4:00pm, Wedding~ Corina Laudon and Brian David Horwitz
Whispering Pines, W. Greenwich

Saturday, May 9, 4:00pm, Wedding~ Ian Bohorquez and Siulam Fernandes
Botanical Gardens, Providence

RI Legislative Ministry

We had a very successful meeting with Newport Representatives J. Russell Jackson and Peter Martin at the home of Lois Kessler. Special thanks to George Warch and Betsy Dees for organizing the event and Eleanor Doumato and Jim Asbel for moderating the discussion. Twenty Channing members attended the meeting focusing on issues of Fair Taxation, Housing, and Marriage Equality.

As in past years, we will host a special Sunday Service and picnic in August for this group.

Worship

Sunday, May 3, *Held in Community*, New Member Welcome

Sunday, May 10, *Our Fifth Principle*, UUA President

Sunday, May 31, *Religious Humanism*, Bridging Ceremony

Sunday, June 7, *Flower Communion*

Sunday, June 14, *What If? Reasonable Consideration*, Rev. Lark d'Helen

Linda Beall is coordinating Summer Services.

