

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH
Board of Govenors Meeting
Minutes
August 18, 2009

PRESENT: Chris Yalanis, Susan VanDerhoof, Chris Laudon, Russ Millham, Beth Milham, Jim Freese, Sarah Mermin, David Pedrick and Judie Porter

STAFF: Rev. Amy Freedman

PROCESS OBSERVER: David Pedrick

MINUTES: The minutes of the July meeting were approved.

PROPERTY:

The steeple project is going well; the stones are being placed back up on the steeple. The reinforced concrete tension ring was poured, and the dormer windows rebuilt. They have begun building the interior CMU structure and attaching the stones to it. The belfry has been measured and the old bell frame will be removed this week.

The 10th bell has been ordered. It will be delivered with the other 9 and installed at the same time. The steel frame will be delivered in the same container.

Thanks to Pat Padilla for getting his crew to clear out the weeds along the fence so quickly. The drainage problem should be substantially improved with the new berm and asphalt area directing water to the drainpipe.

We will be initiating a Master Plan discussion in September so that we can be prepared to repair the site once the steeple is done. Work is underway to provide a plan and notes on the work to be done so the Board and congregation can discuss and decide what should be done.

Channing House tenancy continues, as Gnazzo Co. will stay until the project is completed.

Fire extinguishers were checked, Parish Hall flooding aired out, Channing House front door being rebuilt and painted.

TREASURER

Russ purchased a new computer for the office. He is still working on setting it up. He has redone Quick Books and started from scratch on all the accounts. The budget has been put in and he is slowly closing the money market account. The Parks Service wants a new budget for the Saving America's Treasurers grant and he is working on that as well.

Russ redid our original loan for Channing House to get a lower percentage rate. We have a \$300,000 line of credit now with the bridge loan.

MINISTER'S REPORT

Administration

Special thanks to Russ Milham for purchasing a new computer for the church and providing office support. Michele still needs assistance transferring files to the new computer and uploading Power Church. The Master Church Calendar will be distributed at the next Board Meeting on September 3. If you have any changes or additions to the calendar, please email the church office.

Bed and Breakfast Weekend

May 21- 25, 2010

As a fundraiser for the church, the Stewardship Committee has decided that we will host Unitarian Universalists for a B&B weekend on May 21-May 25, 2010. The Spring Boat Show is also that weekend which might be an additional draw. The rates for UU B&B's range from \$50-\$200/night. Newport Bed and Breakfasts charge \$125-\$500 for those dates. It has been suggested that we charge \$100 for double accommodations and \$80 for single per night. This weekend will allow all of us to experience hosting fellow UU's on one concerted weekend. We will advertise in the *UU World* and *UU're Home*.

Rites of Passage

Saturday, August 8, 5pm, Wedding of Cameron Turner and David Monte, Jamestown, RI

Wedding Brochure

Eleanor Doumato has drafted a new Wedding Brochure. Marcia Mallory had recently printed a black and white version. One concern is whether we actually have the staff and necessary for Dress Rehearsal Dinners and small Receptions.

Worship Services

Sunday, August 9 Meditations with Emerson
Sunday, August 16 Meditations with Hafiz
Sunday, August 23 Meditations with Pema Chodron
Sunday, September 6 Celebrating Dr. Seuss

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 6, 11:15am, **Green Eggs and Ham**, Parish Hall
\$5 per person, Master Chef, Russ Milham

→ ***Looking for Helpers! Would You? Could You?***

Saturday, September 12, 10-12, **Religious Education Open House**

Sunday, September 13, **Ingathering Service and Open House**



OTHER BUSINESS

Special Collections – Nickie Kates requested that we have the usual special collection for Care giving at the September 13th service. The issue had been brought up last year at a board meeting, but never resolved. David said that there are cornerstones of the church that people are happy to give to like care giving, RE and the choir. The board agreed that we should have the special collection.

Committee on Ministry – There are two new members of the committee, Dave Lussier and Cadence Ellington.

Auction – Sue requested that a portion of the proceeds from the auction be designated for the steeple project. In doing so, it would be more likely that outside businesses would make a donation to a historic preservation project rather than the church's operating budget. It was suggested that businesses could designate that their donation, if requested, go toward the project rather than the church's operating budget. No formal vote was taken, but the board agreed that it is a good idea to designate some portion of the funds (amount to be determined at a later date) toward the steeple project.