

UCOT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2021

10:00 at Aubrecht's Home

Members present: Joe Mazza, Dennis Scott, Chuck Fawns, Bob Aubrecht, Mimi Owensby and Margot Coleman

Agenda:

- I. Opening Words (Mimi) – Mimi read Sources of our Faith by the Rabbi Michael Lerner
- II. Minutes of June 2021 Meeting (Margot) – The minutes were approved as corrected.
- III. Treasurer's Report (Joe) – the treasurer's report was approved as presented

IV. Continuing Items

- a) 2021 service and Circles – updates (Bob and Dennis)

Matthew Pargeter and Christine will not be able to cover the services they originally agreed to as the Albuquerque church is short-handed. Jeanne will do the August and October services that Christine and Matthew were going to do. Bob will send an update of the calender.

Regarding the Fall Harvest service, if we have it in person, Margot will organize the food.

For the circles, Dennis will ask for volunteers at the next meeting.

b) In-person protocols and planning (Bob) – There is only one key to the front gate and door. The Masons want to keep it that way. It has been decided that the COVID numbers are going up and the board agreed that we need to put off having services in person. Bob will write an article for the newsletter and announce the decision at services tomorrow.

V. New Items

a) Rachel Cohen's role at in-person services – Plan B (Bob)

Rachel is not vaccinated and so will not be able to fulfill her normal role at services in the Lodge. She will continue her role in administration. Joe and Margot volunteered to cover her jobs at in-person services.

b) Munro Sickafoose's future role with UCOT (Bob) – Munro and his wife are moving to Chimayo and so he will be in the area if it is decided that he will return as a part-time minister. Bob will talk to Munro about his plans and about the concerns that some members of the congregation have regarding his sermon styles.

c) Jeanne Montclair as presiding minister (Bob) – Joe has some concerns regarding Jeanne's last service. He has had some complaints from members of the congregation regarding her asking members to join her in a political issue. It was decided that Joe would speak to her in the coming week.

d) Jill Cline as possible presiding minister (Bob from Mya) – Jill is a recent hire at St. James and is an ordained youth minister. Bob is having a difficult time finding ministers to fill in for the part-time minister services. Filling the vacancies with Unitarian ministers

from other congregations has become difficult because other congregations because other churches are short-staffed.

Joe feels that we need to have a Worship Committee because it is too big a job for just one person. The board asked Joe to look into finding people in the congregation who might be willing to be a part of a Worship Committee. It was also decided that Gary should be consulted about who will be on the committee and what the responsibilities will be.

e) Timing of monthly UCOT newsletter (Bob from Rachel) – Rachel would like to push back the call for content until the middle of the month and send the newsletter out the last week of the month.

VI. Committee Reports

- a) Music – the musician scheduled for August will be fine performing on Zoom.
- b) Fellowship – Dinners for 6 will be postponed due to COVID.
- c) Small Groups – The men’s group is continuing as is the Hope group. There is also a group of 5 men who meet every 4-6 weeks to discuss climate change.
- d) Sharing circles (Dennis) – The group will need to discuss the format of the group when they start to meet in person.

Bob told us that the 5th Sunday program in August will cover the water situation in our area.

VII. Closing Words (Chuck) – Chuck read Cherish Your Doubts from the Hymnal.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Next meeting: August 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM via Zoom.