

USG Board of Trustees Minutes - 8/25/20

1. **Approval of July Board Minutes** - the 7/28/20 minutes were approved as submitted.
2. **Cooperative Nursery School (CNS) Proposal** - The USG Safety Committee approved the plan and Building and Grounds identified no conflicts, including no conflicts with the Home School program. Bathroom sanitation issues were discussed with the consensus that renters will sanitize the bathroom after use.
Dave Deardon (USG Counsel) went through the lease addendum document he drew up. After discussion, the document was approved with the following changes:
 - A. Limit to total of 25 people.
 - I. Cleaning - CNS will be responsible for cleaning in accordance with agreement.
 - J. USG will also be contacted when CNS contacts health officials.
 - K. Change to 21 days.
3. **Minister's Report** - We are moving from Summer mode to beginning the start of the year. The challenge of maintaining physical distance yet keeping emotional and social connections continues. Our annual Water Ceremony in September is our covenant to stay connected. Several new CSD programs will be launched this fall to help keep our youth connected. There will be more hangout stuff and more pastoral care.
Latifah Griffin will start on September 1, as our part-time intern minister. Her contract agreement is now being finalized. We'll have the opportunity to meet and greet Latifah in some Zoom sessions. We will also have weekly hangouts to talk and work on getting out the vote. A memorial service for Rebecca Blum (Susan Bockius' daughter) is set for September 19 in the sanctuary with a limit of 25 in-person attendees. It will also be possible to attend the service virtually via Zoom. The service arrangements will be similar to those for David Williford. There will be an Interfaith (White Faith Leaders) March to Black Lives Matter Plaza (Lafayette Plaza) in D.C. which Kent will join for the last 2 days to mark the 57th anniversary of MLK's I Have A Dream speech.
The Black Lives Matter vigil continues in front of USG Monday-Friday each week.
4. **Covid Relief Fund** - There was a discussion of additional ways to publicize the fund. It was noted that possible competition with UUPLAN Covid efforts needed to be considered. So far, \$31,000 has been raised. The FUNdraising committee will be spearheading future fundraising efforts. Kent and others expressed the view that the big wave hasn't hit yet, but will be coming soon as a result of the end of the first round of federal covid relief payments.
Kent suggested creating a video to encourage contributions to the Covid Relief Fund. John, Andrea and Sam will work with Kent on the video. We will also be working to connect the Welcoming and Caring committees with our Covid Relief efforts.
5. **Governance Structure of Church** - Andrea Parry gave a presentation on August 14, explaining the current governance structure of the church. Dev Howerton suggested

reviewing existing policies and updating as needed. Andrea is interested in looking at the big picture and getting regular reports from all committees, including some, such as Sullivan that have not provided reports in the past. Others include quarterly reports of financials (operating budget), special projects, and investment accounts (CIF). What is the most efficient way to get the Board the info it wants in a timely fashion? Kent recommends that we consider putting together a policy review committee. Dev Howerton volunteered to spearhead this effort to review policies. Andrea suggested starting with financial policies.

6. **Relationship Between the Board and Church Committees** - the Board decided to table this discussion until policy reviews are completed.

7. **Vision for USG for the Future** - Kent framed the question, explaining that it is tricky to make tangible the dialog of where we want to go. The Pandemic has brought on a time of change and this may in fact be a very good time to discuss future needs. Some of the questions before us are: How important is it to get members back together in-person? Kent believes we could develop a plan for small groups to meet safely. Is it important to do this (a vision question)? MET will bring together the Future Committee and the Covid Task Force to discuss ways to move forward. Ideas from these discussions will be brought to the Board.
The Board endorses the idea of figuring out ways for small groups to meet. MET and the Future committee and Covid committees will work out the details.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sam Stormont - Secretary, USG Board of Trustees