

UUSJ Trustee Meeting

05/07/2024

In Attendance: Rev. Peggy Clark, Mariano Vera, Kristin Schmidt, Chloe Emily Ockey, Vonna Heaton, Meleah Houseknecht, Sandra Wilmore, Dan Schneider, Jean Pierce, Dale Anderson, Rev. Latifah Griffin, Pablo De Jesus (ex-officio)

Opening - Rev. Peggy Clark

Report from the Chair - Rev. Peggy Clark

- Rev. Peggy is stepping away from UUSJ in June
- Rev. Kristin is also stepping away from UUSJ in June

Advocacy Report from the Executive Director - Pablo DeJesus

- Environment and Climate Justice
 - We are formal partners for the UU Climate Revival in September 2024
 - Focusing on the advocacy component for September with UU the Vote and UUSC
 - Testing the waters on UU interests in the Earth Bill
 - Testing the waters on UU interests Environmental Justice for All Act
- Economic Justice
 - The big push now is for the Child Tax Credit
 - For the Community Project Funding program (CPF), through the FY25 appropriations process, the House has proposed new rules that would bar many non-profits doing various service work from getting funding. The House guidance would mean that Congress would be unable to consider any project proposals from 501(c)(3)s that address education, mentoring, healthcare, construction (of anything, including affordable housing, community centers, schools, hospitals, health centers), and urban hunger.
- Democracy
 - Our DAT is working on issues related to the following: What does it mean for us to engage in a pro-democracy movement? What should UUSJ's role be in that? What should the UU's role be in that?
- Generally, during the next month or so, the sitting members of Congress will be more and more focused on the election, not legislation.
- This past weekend, Pablo was invited to join President Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt's Council during their DC visit. Note the UUA is already discussing GA in 2025 and related Hill advocacy.

Report from Nominating Committee - Rev. Latifah Griffin & Pablo De Jesus

- 6 applications so far, 3 solid candidates, 3 more who need further investigating
- The Nominating Committee will have some choices to make
- Outreach and Recruitment
 - Pacific Northwest location needed.
 - New England Region needed.
 - People who are willing to do transitional work.

- People who are not afraid of talking about money and resourcing issues.
- Communication skills are needed and wanted.
- Younger humans are welcome!
- The final deadline for application is May 23rd
- Nominations will hopefully be clear by the June 25th trustee meeting; the slate should be shared 5 days in advance or June 19th

Report from the Treasurer - Mariano Vera

- He will create a report to send out by email.

Report from Development - Dale Anderson

- Presentation -
 - Contributions and Grants have been increasing post-covid years.
 - Our goal is/was to raise \$25,000 by June 30th; with a focused call effort between May 1 - 10 and a \$7000 matching opportunity.
 - We raised \$12,500 dollars from 17 of the 34 main volunteers who contributed to pooling funds for the match
 - We have already exceeded our target budget this year without going out and targeting individual donors for follow-up
 - We now have a list of our Lapsed donors. Meleah and Dale will contact them individually.
 - We will need friends to write Thank-you notes to both pledgers and matchers
 - Pablo already sent a general thank you to the pledgers
 - We have until June 30th for follow-up
 - Board members should forward the Spring Appeal email(s) to those in their personal network

Report from Finance: Budget Proposal - Pablo De Jesus & Meleah Houseknecht

- Presentation -
 - This is a budget that has moved from the March 2024 Proposal and reflects the guidance coming out of the Executive Committee sessions in March and Early April of 2024
 - Put together a Time Budget - how much time will take from Staff and Trustees.
 - Staff have 50 hours total each week. 2,600 for the full year.
 - Trustees have 44 total. Chair is 15 hours, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer is 5 hours each, and non-officer trustees are 2 hours each.
 - Budget Goals from the Finance Committee:
 1. Board Development,
 2. Engage Individual donors and supporters,
 3. Deepen partnerships with UU and interfaith organizations/coalitions,
 4. Hold other functions and programs in a steady progression
 - Budget Goals from the Executive Committee:
 1. Change the UUSJ Model; move to Co-Directorships,
 2. Board development,
 3. Engage individual donors and supporters,

4. Deepen partnerships with UU and interfaith organizations/coalitions,
 5. Hold other functions and programs in a steady progression
- Related questions for discussion and future discussion:
 - What do trustees want to see in this budget?
 - What do trustees want to be trimmed out?
 - What do trustees believe will support our high-level goals and help increase and enhance our relationships?

990 Reminder - Pablo De Jesus

- Pablo has time tomorrow for walk-throughs if needed
- It has been vetted by the Executive, Finance Committee, and former Board Chair
- **Motion to approve is passed** - Dale motioned, and Dan seconds; unanimous support for submission to the IRS

General Assembly

- We have a virtual booth! Volunteers will need to be there to talk about UUSJ.
- UUSJ has limited funds to cover registration if needed. Contact Pablo if needed!

Next Meeting: June 25th at 1 p.m. E.T.

- Agenda items:
 - Nominations of potential new members
 - Budget needs approval

Next, next Meeting: TBD

- Agenda items:
 - Formally empower incoming Trustees as new board
 - Vote for officers at the meeting
 - Chair
 - Vice Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer (Dan expected, already volunteered).