

**Church of the Larger Fellowship
Board of Directors
January 30, 2009**

MINUTES

Present: Maureen Killoran, Brad Bradburd, Abhi Janamanchi, Lynda Bluestein, Frank Wells, Lois Reborne, Mark Gibbons, Stefan Jonasson, Gail Geisenhainer, Jane Rzepka, Lorraine Dennis, Lisa Kielt

Not able to be present: Lucia Santini Field, Laura Jones

- 1. Ingathering – Abhi**
- 2. Check In – All**
- 3. Approval of Minutes, October 2008 Board meeting (Gail/Lynda) Approved.**
- 4. Staff Reports – Jane (Lorraine will speak during the Finance and GA Reports)**

Jane's sabbatical went well, with some quality time spent in Central America. Jane received a letter from John Lees expressing his delight that we have finally reached a 5% draw from investments after several years of gradual decreases in the percentage.

CLF Finances are worrisome, but all our programs are going very well, including the prison ministry, CYF, Church on Loan, membership.

Bill Schulz has agreed to preach with Jane at GA in Salt Lake City.

- 5. Finance Report – Lorraine**

Lorraine reported on the preliminary operating statement sent to the board with the meeting packet. We presently show a deficit for 2008 of \$43,702. There may be some adjustments made as the staff completes the year end entries, but the final number will be near this number. The income categories most affected by the present economic situation were Contributions (-\$34,199), Jewelry sales (-\$4,997), Trust Income (-\$6,511), and Grants (\$2,064). We made cuts in expenses in the amount of \$11,279, but it was not enough to offset the losses in income. **Lorraine will send out final year end statements when they are complete.**

The staff has put cost controls into place. Iris Hardin resigned in January to go back to school and her position will not be filled at this time. We also will not hire an intern minister for the 2009-2010 program year. These two things will

result in savings of approximately \$25,000. The staff will keep in close touch with expenses and revenue as the year progresses.

Motion: To empower the Lorraine and Cindy to transfer money from the Money Market account to the Operating Checking account to allow the flexibility to pay all the bills. (Lynda/Frank) Approved.

Motion: To thank Iris Hardin for her service on the CLF staff and extend the Board's appreciation and deep gratitude for her work for the CLF. (Lois/Lynda) Approved.

Lorraine will send a 2008 Balance sheet with 2007 year end results to the Board.

6. Fundraising Report – Frank and Lisa

Lisa reported that the year ended with \$302,300 in contributions, under the 2008 goal by \$34,199, but nearly identical to the 2007 total. Frank reported that the combination of the failed major gifts solicitation and the economy accounts for the lower number.

Frank also reported that the CYF ended the year with a \$217 surplus. Frank helped the Steering Committee and Amber (Beland, CYF Young Adult Minister) to create a scavenger hunt for the CYF website. It generated some small contributions and about \$2,000 in pledges. It was a fundraising appeal as well as a way to get CYF members to explore the CYF and the CLF sites. Frank encouraged the CYF to focus on donations rather than pledges. The CYF is working to clean up its database and move inactive members into inactive status. There has been slightly higher activity on the CYF lately.

Maureen reported that she is working with former CLF board member, Ken Gross, to ask a foundation in Philadelphia for a grant to support CLF's Prison Ministry.

Lisa announced the Second Offering Website, which is available from the Giving page. It contains many resources for congregations to use if they are doing a service/second offering for the CLF. Lisa did a mailing to 25 ministers before the holidays. We will be following up on these now that Jane is back from sabbatical. **Mark Gibbons suggested that Lisa send the list of ministers to the board to see if anyone has a connection to those congregations.**

Lois commented that though Lisa has done a fair number of posts to CLF-Announce for fundraising, there have been no complaints and no one has left the list. That seems like a good sign that members are receptive to our appeals.

7. Nominating Committee – Lynda

It looks like we will have one board member to replace since Abhi will not be able to run for a second term. Lynda asked for suggestions for the skill sets the Nominating Committee should look for and names of people that could be good prospects. Brad will not be running for Treasurer, but Lucia will run again for Clerk. Frank Wells agreed to run for the Nominating Committee as the Board representative.

8. CLF Board size discussion – Stefan

Stefan submitted language for two bylaw changes that could implement the decision made at the fall board meeting to change the size of the board from 12 to 9 members. After a discussion, amendments were made and a motion was presented as follows:

Motion: To present the bylaw amendment as drafted to the Annual Meeting for consideration. (Stefan/Lynda) Approved.

Amendment as approved:

Proposed Amendments for 2009 Annual Meeting

Bold underlined text indicates additions; ~~strikethrough text~~ indicates deletions.

Article VIII – Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall be composed of **not more than eleven** members of the corporation elected at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation by members who are present or who submit written ballots.

Section 3 – The ~~twelve~~ Directors shall serve for terms of three years each, ~~four~~ **three** such Directors being elected at each Annual Meeting of the Corporation. No Director shall serve for more than six consecutive years, but a Director may be re-elected after the lapse of one year.

Article IX – Officers and Committees of the Church and Their Duties

Section 4 – Vacancies in elective and appointive offices which occur between Annual Meetings shall be filled by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. Persons so appointed shall serve until the next Annual Meeting. **Where a vacancy in the Board Directors does not reduce that year's Class below three members, such vacancy shall not be filled.**

Housekeeping Amendments for 2011 Annual Meeting

Bold underlined text indicates additions; ~~strikethrough text~~ indicates deletions.

Article VIII – Board of Directors and Executive Committee

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall be composed of ~~not more than eleven~~ **nine** members of the corporation elected at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation by members who are present or who submit written ballots.

Article IX – Officers and Committees of the Church and Their Duties

Section 4 – Vacancies in elective and appointive offices which occur between Annual Meetings shall be filled by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee. Persons so appointed shall serve until the next Annual Meeting. ~~Where a vacancy in the Board Directors does not reduce that year's Class below three members, such vacancy shall not be filled.~~

9. Annual Meeting and General Assembly – Lorraine

The staff is working on a way to hold the annual meeting electronically – thus, not at General Assembly. Lorraine has talked with Paul Rickter, UUA Board member, who has done a lot of research on this. It now looks like it is legal to hold a remote meeting. We will still mail paper ballots to all members. The staff will have more to report at the spring meeting.

10. March meeting planning

Meeting will convene at 1PM, Thursday, March 26 through 2PM Friday, March 27. On Thursday evening, Lynda Bluestein will lead a focus and training on Fundraising.

There may be Fundraising or Finance Committee meetings on Thursday morning.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.