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Church of the Larger Fellowship Board of Directors Meeting March 28, 2008

MINUTES

Present: Denny Davidoff, Frank Wells, Lynda Bluestein, Mark Gibbons, Brad Bradburd, Maureen Killoran, Lois Reborne, Lucia Santini Field, Fred Wooden

Staff: Jane Rzepka, Lorraine Dennis, Dan Kane, Lisa Kielt

Unable to be present: Abhi Janamanchi, John Crestwell

- 1. Opening words and music, Randall Thompson's *Alleluia* – Frank Wells**
- 2. Motion to approve the minutes of the October 2007 board meeting (Wells, Bradburd). Passed unanimously.**
- 3. Motion to approve the minutes of the February 2008 Teleconference (Wells, Bluestein) Passed unanimously.**
- 4. Senior Minister's Report – Jane**

Jane reported that all of our programs are running well; that the staff works hard to make sure we are constantly working toward excellence in all program areas. We write grants to assist in program development and then try to find ways to generate revenue from programs. She listed the following programs as examples: Prison Ministry, two years of podcasts, online Religious Education, Church on Loan, public relations, uu&me! (our kids magazine), the ministerial internship, the CYF for young adults, fundraising, ongoing analysis of jewelry sales. All in all, the story is very positive. She thanked the board for their support now and into the future.

- 5. Executive Director's Report – Lorraine**

Lorraine gave board members a tour of the CLF website, including the *Quest* pages and podcasts, the RE Index, Sundays Online, and other religious education pages. She talked about bundling our services to appeal to different constituencies. For the Church on Loan program, we have a web page, behind a password, that bundles CLF resources in a way that works for small congregations. The RE Index also resides behind a password and is bundled with other RE resources in RE Express Plus. We are about to create a new web page directed at religious educators in churches of all sizes that will bundle resources in a way that works for DREs. There may be more ways to bundle programs and resources to appeal to other constituencies.

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The Board thanked the staff for their reports and gave board members an idea of the day-to-day work that is done by the staff.

6. General Assembly – Lorraine

All our arrangements for GA are in place. The CLF worship service will be on Saturday, June 28th at 5PM. The Ingathering will be on Wednesday, June 25th at 4:45PM.

The CLF Board can participate in the UUA Presidential campaign by filing congregational nomination papers for both candidates.

Motion: that the CLF Board of Directors support the nomination of each candidate for President of the UUA. (Bradburd/Gibbons) Motion passed.

Lorraine will download and fill out the Nominating petition.

7. Finance Report – Brad, Lorraine

Brad referred to the operating statements in the board packet through February and reported that the CLF is doing well so far this year, with revenue ahead of budget by \$14,404 and the net ahead of budget by \$12,939. Brad expressed his thanks to the staff for their cooperation in making some changes to the CLF's accounting methods. The board looked at the 2008 budget with the 2009 projection. We will need to achieve budgeted results in 2008 in order to be able to increase revenue in 2009 to cover the projected expenses.

Lucia asked Lorraine to send the 2008 Budget Spread to the Finance Committee.

8. Investments Report - Lucia reported that the CLF Endowment's value on 12/31/2007 was \$2,112,754. The total return for 2007 was 5.9%. Asset allocation as of 12/31/2007 was

UUA GIF (50% Equity, 30% fixed, 20% Uncorrelated)	\$1,403,671
Vanguard FTSE For Good (100% Equity)	\$448,361
Money Market and Bonds	<u>\$260,722</u>
Total	\$2,112,754
Equity Allocation Percentage	54%

Lucia also reported that she and Brad and Lorraine would be meeting with the Trustees of the Ted and Nathalie Jones Trust to exchange information about our organization and the trust's investment plans. **Lorraine did a short history of the Jones' relationship with the CLF and will send a copy of that history to board members.**

9. Fundraising Report – Frank, Lisa

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Contributions as of March 21st are \$95,000 versus a budget of \$83,000. We are strengthening our appeals and refining the Major Gifts initiative. Congregational Plate Collections/Second Offerings are in the plan for this year, too.

We have a \$20,000 budget expectation for Major Gifts and there was discussion about ways to strengthen relationships as the major gifts plan is created. Denny pointed out that the second part of our mission is to grow Unitarian Universalism, so we must take advantage of this to recruit major givers. People in the movement don't know the contributions that the CLF makes. Our own supporters are our best prospects, but we need to build relationships with institutionalists who are never going to be CLF members. Lynda shared some best practices and pointed out that building relationships is the most important fundraising the board can do. **Lisa will move ahead with plans for board members to contact people from the major gifts prospects list to see if they are going to GA and invite them to attend the CLF worship and perhaps dinner before the Ware Lecture.**

10. Church of the Younger Fellowship – Laura

Laura reported that the CYF Steering Committee has had a rough few months with committee members experiencing personal difficulties. The CYF is facing a challenge because there is no UUA Young Adult/Campus Ministry grant this year. For the last 3 years, the CYF has received \$5,000 in the spring.

The Board agreed that the CYF's priority has to be fundraising and that the Steering Committee has to take the responsibility for doing this.

Laura asked on behalf of the CYF Steering Committee for a loan from the CLF for \$1,680 to pay for GA scholarships and also asked that the CLF advance money to provide matching funds for GA Planning Committee scholarships which must be matched by the applicant's congregation. Since the scholarship deadline is Monday, March 31, 2008, there is not time to raise funds for this.

Motion: To loan the CYF Steering Committee up to \$1,000 to pay for matching funds for GAPC scholarships. The Steering Committee must meet before Monday, March 31, 2008 and agree to pay this loan back before any other CYF expenses are paid (Wells, Jones) Motion, after much discussion, passed.

Laura will contact the CYF Steering Committee today.

Motion: To provide an advance of \$1,680 to the CYF Steering Committee to cover CYF GA budget line for 2008. (Jones/Wells) Yay = 4, Nay = 5. Motion fails.

11. Nominating Committee – Lynda

Lynda read the slate of candidates for the Board and Nominating Committee as follows:

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Board of Directors – Lynda Bluestein, Frank Wells, Gail Geisenhainer, Stefan Jonasson

Nominating Committee – Christopher Walton

Upon a vote of the Board at or after GA, Officers of the Board of Directors are proposed as follows:

Chair: Maureen Killoran

Vice Chair: Frank Wells

Treasurer: Arnold Bradburd

Clerk: Lucia Santini Field

At-Large: Lois Reborne

Motion: to accept the report of the Nominating Committee and the slate as presented. (Bradburd/Wells) Motion passed. The staff will send the ballot as an insert in the May Quest.

12. GA Delegates – Denny

We have a slate to vote on with two openings.

Motion: To approve the GA delegates slate as submitted (Wells, Reborne) Motion passed.

Motion: To authorize the Executive Committee to adjust the slate as needed before GA. (Wells/Bluestein) Motion passed.

13. Welcoming Congregation – Dan/Denny

The Board thanked ministerial intern, Dan Kane, for his excellent presentation on Thursday night regarding all the many programs and activities that the CLF has held to support GLBT concerns and people. After discussion about the appropriate action to take, the board passed the following motion. Dan will send a copy of the vote with his supporting materials to Keith Kron at the UUA to request the official designation.

Motion: That the CLF become an officially designated Welcoming Congregation. (Wells, Reborne) Motion passed.

14. Guardian of the Future Award – Lois

Lois presented CLF member Susan Brown as a candidate for the Ministry for the Earth's Guardian of the Future Award for 2008. Susan lives in Kansas City, Missouri and was instrumental in negotiating a settlement with a power company that resulted in the building of one power plant instead of two, an agreement to clean up two existing plants, and to offset harmful emissions to the environment by adding wind power and energy efficiency to their portfolio. The parties will also work together on a series of regulatory

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and legislative initiatives to achieve an overall reduction in KCP&L's carbon dioxide emissions of 20 percent by 2020.

The first step is for the board to recognize Susan as a Guardian of the Future. Then Lois will complete the application to the Ministry for the Earth in the hope that Susan will be the winner of the national award.

Motion: To honor CLF member Susan Brown as Guardian of the Future for 2008. (Reborne, Wells) Motion passed.

15. Reflections – Denny

Denny reflected on her time as a member of the CLF Board of Directors. She has been on the board for seven years, with six as chair.

16. Process Observation – Maureen

Maureen said that the meeting seemed to go very well; that discussion was appropriate and participation was good.

17. Motion to Adjourn at 3:00 PM (Wells, Jones) Motion passed.

Tasks List for the Fall Meeting (October 23 and 24, 2008)

Lynda:

- **pre-nominating report to be ready to recruit for 2010**
- **fundraising Committee should prepare agenda collaboratively before the meeting**
- **update the giving page on the CLF website**

Lois:

- **work with Dan on Welcoming Congregation**
- **follow up on Susan Brown nomination**
- **budget 2009 support for GA delegates**

Lucia:

- **create asset allocation educational materials**
- **bring a recommendation for CYF/CLF policy regarding the budget to the fall meeting (Laura would like to be included in the discussion)**

Mark:

- **follow up on advertising budget to avoid a decline in the amount budgeted**
- **at some point, implement an interactive meeting with the board and members.**

Laura:

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- **work on Major Gifts solicitation**
- **Send the CYF Welcoming Congregation materials to Dan for the UUA packet**
- **Work to clarify CLF-CYF relationship, including the surplus/deficit question**

Frank:

- **Work with Fundraising committee on annual giving, spring solicitation and major gifts.**
- **Work on telling the CLF story**

Maureen:

- **Work on new board member orientation with the staff**
- **Fundraising Committee work**