

Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF)
Board of Directors
March 26-27, 2009

MINUTES

Present: Maureen Killoran, Lynda Bluestein, Gail Geisenhainer, Lois Reborne, Lucia Santini Field, Mark Gibbons, Laura Jones, Frank Wells (by telephone), Staff: Jane Rzepka, Lorraine Dennis, Lisa Kielt, Amber Beland.

1. **Opening Words** – Mark

2. **Check in** – Everyone

3. **Agenda review**

Motion: To adopt the agenda as amended. (Lucia/Mark) Passed unanimously.

4. **Minutes**

Motion: To approve January 30, 2009 minutes. (Lynda/Lois) Passed unanimously.

5. **Staff Reports**

Jane read a series of emails from the CLF-List showing how CLF members support each other. She told the Board that she will be preaching with Bill Schulz at GA this year. She also told the Board that the UUA has cut the money they pay us for uu&me! out of the 2010 budget. So, uu&me! will end with the summer issue.

Motion: To extend the Board's thanks to Betsy Williams for her work on uu&me! over the years. (Gail/Lynda) Passed unanimously.

Lorraine asked if there were any questions about the staff reports sent to the board as part of the meeting packet. Board members enjoyed reading the reports and have a better understanding of the work of the staff because of them.

6. **“In the Service of What?” Discussion – Jane, Maureen**

An open conversation about how we describe, and how we could describe, our CLF mission, and the direction and desired ends of its programs. After much discussion on Thursday and Friday, several working groups were formed to explore options for the future of the CLF.

7. **Fundraising Report** – Lisa, Frank

Lisa reported that contributions as of March 18th are \$86,282. We are ahead of budget after January and February, but anticipating a drop in gifts for March.

Second Collection Project - Lisa made a presentation to the board asking each board member to commit to finding two congregations that will agree to have a Second Collection to benefit the CLF. Lisa will support the effort.

8. **Annual Meeting plans** – Lorraine

We will hold the Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2009 at 2PM EDT via conference call. Materials will be posted to the CLF website by May 1 and members can request by May 7 that a hard copy of the materials be sent to them. We will use a free conference call service that will take up to 96 participants. We hope this method of doing the Annual Meeting will be more inclusive and greener than the holding the meeting at General Assembly.

9. **Process Observation** – Gail

Recess the meeting at 5:00PM and reconvene on Friday morning at 8:30AM. Lynda Bluestein will offer a workshop to the board this evening on fundraising.

Motion: To approve the amended agenda for the morning. (Lucia/Gail)
Passed unanimously.

10. **Fundraising Reprise** – Lynda

Lynda thanked board members for the opportunity to work with them and reminded everyone that ‘it’s the stories’ that create relationships that encourage generosity on the part of our members. Board members applauded Lynda’s work again and thanked her for taking time to do the workshop.

11. **Financial Report** – Lorraine and Lucia

Operating - Since Brad Bradburd was unable to attend the meeting, Lorraine presented the operating statement thru February 28, 2009. We are well ahead of budget at this point and hope we can sustain this momentum. Since Iris Hardin resigned in January, her position has not been filled. Her responsibilities have been spread amongst the remaining staff, with almost every staff person taking on additional duties.

Investments – Lucia’s report has the Dec 31, 2008 value of the endowment at \$1,554,057, down \$415,144 or -21.1%. The equity allocation percentage is 44% at the year end.

Lucia will work with the staff to create a liquidity plan to assure that the CLF has enough cash in the money market account for 18 months draw, plus an emergency fund. We will also move the Vanguard money into the UUA CEF.

12. **Nominating Committee** – Lynda

Lynda reported that the Nominating Committee is working as the HR resource for the Board. There are no new board members running this year, so the slate is Maureen Killoran, Lucia Santini Field, Abhi Janamanchi, Mark Gibbons for the Board. Lynda Bluestein, Treasurer, Lucia Santini Field, Clerk.

Lynda asked Board members to complete the Board Self Assessment form she passed out and get them back to her asap. She will summarize and report back to the Board.

11. **General Assembly** – Lorraine

The staff is all set to go to GA. Our worship will happen in the first program slot on Thursday, June 25 at 9:00 AM. The CYF will host the Ingathering since it will happen at 10:00 PM this year.

Motion: To approve the list of delegates as presented to the Board (Gail/Lucia) Passed unanimously.

Motion: To authorize the Executive Committee to fill the remaining delegate slots. (Gail/Lucia) Passed unanimously.

12. **CYF Report and Tour** – Laura and Amber

Laura asked if there were any questions about the report on the CYF that she included in the Board packet. She then gave a tour of the CYF website. The site has been redesigned with the help of a new member of the Tech Team, Jan Bosman, who joins Jonathan Craig. Erik David Carlson has resigned from the Tech Team since he is about to graduate from seminary and is getting married this summer.

There are two new Steering Committee (SC) members and the SC has been focused on stewardship and meeting weekly by telephone. There is new programming on the site as well. They have a gifts and talents survey via Survey Monkey and hope to match up volunteers with work on the website.

Amber Beland (CYF Young Adult Minister) reported that finances are key to the SC. Automatic quarterly statements are being sent to pledgers. The SC is posting financial information on the site and the email statements the Tech Team is creating may be helpful to congregations who need this service.

The SC hopes to market the CYF to congregations that want to start young adults groups. Lynda Bluestein offered to help the CYF SC with language and design of the fundraising pages.

13. **Closing words** – Gail

Meeting adjourned 12:10 PM.