

**First Unitarian Society
Board Meeting**

September 17, 2008

Item	Decision/Action Required	Action Owner
Opening Shawl Ministry Charter	<p>Pamela Magee read a piece about elections. This ministry is off to a flying start. There was an immediate group of regulars who signed up and there have been two "drop ins" so far. There will be shawls provided in the near future for the ministers and lay ministers so people may see them. Also in the near future the ministers will start to consider those who may need these shawls in their lives. This is an outgrowth of the Qwest program in Lorna's opinion because she had the idea that helped to develop this ministry as a direct outgrowth of the Qwest program. The first shawl offering was a shawl made by Gail Snowden that was sent to the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation where the shooting occurred a month or two ago. Go to Gail Snowden's website to see the shawl. Lap-ropes and other handmade items are also provided in addition to shawls. They are used in times of change and transition. A MOTION was made to approve the charter and the motion CARRIED unanimously.</p>	<p>Pamela Magee Lorna Aaronson</p>
Check In	<p>Many favorable comments were made about the opening weekend of services in the Atrium Auditorium. Much effort, particularly on behalf of staff, was evident and appreciated. Richard Miller will draft a statement of thanks to the staff for their work to make the opening such a success, as well as their patience during the past year of construction.</p>	All
Financial Report	<p>Brian Hellmer reviewed the Budget Summary. Brian discussed the changes in the budget from the year prior to last year and this year which is the comparable year, given that last year was an anomaly due to the construction year. We ended up with a surplus for the past fiscal year but that money is needed for certain items such as a replacement boiler in the Landmark Building. So we cannot count on that money to increase salaries for staff.</p> <p>Also we are about \$50,000 behind in pledges, which must be accounted for in the current year's budget. We have not had the follow up we should have had at this time but we can do some follow up at this time with the excitement of the new building. This is another reason to be judicious about giving up</p>	Brian Hellmer

the surplus from last year.

The Development Director search is progressing.

The building budget was presented.

Break		
Board Roles	A discussion about Board roles was deferred until this coming Saturday's retreat.	All
Operating Metrics	There was confusion about the templates that were being used and there seemed to be a consensus to have metrics that measure progress over time and not just within a fixed time period. The assistance of a statistician may be helpful and a small group working on this may be a more effective way to proceed. Many of the items on the existing template that was considered at this meeting are already collected so it does not require new data and measures. We should not try to do everything at once and we should try to focus on the high priority items first. A task force of Richard Miller, Pamela Magee, Kathy Luker, Susan Koenig and Brian Joiner will meet to develop the initial measures and a form to capture them.	All
Agenda for Parish Meeting	A small group can meet to hammer out this agenda. The key items will be the opening, "we've done it," the financial report and the strategic and annual plans.	All
Approval of Minutes	A MOTION was made to approve the August Board minutes. The motion CARRIED.	Tom Detmer
Closing		Pamela Magee

List of Handouts:

Shawl Ministry Charter
Financial Report
Preservation and Building Budget
Board Roles
Operating Metrics
August Board Minutes

Attendance:

Laurie Joiner, President
Kathy Luker, President Elect
Tom Detmer, Secretary
Brian Hellmer, Treasurer
Emily Cusic Moore, Trustee
Lisa Munro, Trustee
Pamela Magee, Trustee
Richard Miller, Trustee
Michael Schuler, Parish Minister
Karen Gustafson, Minister
Susan Koenig, Church Administrator
Lorna Aaronson, Shawl Ministry