

Minutes: CVUU Board Meeting
May 12, 2009
CVUU Sanctuary, 596 East 900 North, Logan

Board members present: Bruce Pendery, Suzanne Marychild, Jay Black, Susie Flann, Anne Hedrich, and George Wootton.

Others present: Beth Walden, Jo Leary, Sarah Ringueberg.

The minutes from the May 5, 2009 board meeting were approved unanimously.

Next meetings. We agreed that the next board meeting will be June 2 at 6:00 pm and that the CVUU annual meeting will be June 21 following the service.

Reports:

George (Americorps position). George presented a report regarding the meeting the Katana social and environmental justice committee had had with Matt Smith regarding his position with us this summer to pursue a sustainability project under the auspices of the Utah Conservation Corps. That report is attached. There was discussion of these plans and a significant question will be whether we can continue the program after Matt leaves on August 12; whether we can identify and pay for a new representative. George said this would represent a serious commitment to environmental justice by the congregation; Suzanne urged that we maintain balance with our spiritual interests and concerns.

We discussed whether Matt might live at the sanctuary during his tenure. Suzanne called for a resolution of the board stating that we would be open to him living at the sanctuary if he so desires. This resolution was passed unanimously.

Susie (Solarfest and the Isabel Katana Award). Susie asked that we consider giving this year's Isabel Katana Award to Bioneers due to their work on behalf of the environment. After discussion it was decided there was also a second very worthy candidate, Paula Watkins. It was decided that the social and environmental justice committee had authority to decide who would be given the award but it was generally agreed the award would be presented to both Bioneers and Paula Watkins, at the Solarfest on May 30. The amount of the award can also be decided by the committee; the Isabel Katana fund currently has roughly \$ 900.00 in it and the award will likely be in the range of \$ 200.00 each.

Susie also discussed expenses and budgeting for Solarfest. This event will cost some money (probably roughly \$ 1000.00 when all is said and done) but it will also be a fund raiser. It was agreed that Susie could draw on funds in the Isabel Katana fund (and that some expenses could be drawn from general accounts) but that these funds should be repaid after the Solarfest so the Katana fund is not depleted, but if Susie still desires money to pay for solar facilities that would not be available due to repayment to the Katana fund, she could come to the board at that time and ask for compensation for this. Susie indicated that there is a new kind of solar system that might be available that would cost only \$ 2,200.00.

Beth (Lay minister report). Beth presented a written report. Generally, she has been very active with services, working on congregation and community “outreach” activities, and other activities such as preparing newsletter articles.

Anne (request for OWL funding). Anne said that preparations are underway to provide the middle school OWL (our whole lives) program this fall. This provides sexual and maturation education to students. There is a need for six teachers and there is a requirement in this program for the teachers to have undergone formal training. There are five teachers currently committed and 4 of those have had the training previously. So they need one more teacher—a man—and possibly two of the teachers will require training. Training costs \$ 200.00 per teacher. It was agreed money for this was part of the RE budget so no specific approval was required but there was strong support for providing this training as needed.

Anne and Sarah also noted that our child care provider is quitting. There was an indication we can likely find a volunteer to cover this.

Leslie reporting through Jay. Leslie wanted the board to consider a by-laws amendment where we would establish a requirement that all members make a “pledge of record.” This would not require any specific dollar amount but would require all members to make a pledge commitment at some level as an indication of their commitment to the congregation. Suzanne made a motion that the by-law amendment to this effect be pursued, it was seconded by Anne, and approved unanimously.

Jay (Mary Jackson Smith’s proposal). Jay brought up again the suggestion MJS had made that we consider providing recreational or other activities to attendees at the General Assembly meeting, for a fee. These could be provided just before the meeting or just after. It was agreed that we would send out an announcement of this opportunity on the Google list and see if we could attract some interest/volunteers. Jay will send out the message and Jo can help organize it.

Budget.

There was a discussion of our budgets and the need to move toward a proposed budget for presentation and approval at the annual meeting. Currently we have \$ 45,290.00 in pledges and Jay expects based on past giving trends that will get \$ 8,979.00 more, for a total of \$ 54,269.00. In addition it is anticipate we will have at least \$ 5000 in “carry over” from this year. Jay presented two handouts regarding budgets, which are attached. One shows our current budget from last year and as can be seen it is balanced. It also provides guidance on what we will need to fund next year.

The second form shows a potential budget for next year. It presents a \$ 67,500.00 budget with \$ 54,000.00 in actual expenditures so as to meet the 125 percent debt coverage requirement we will have with respect to our mortgage arrangements. In reality this budget can be increased to \$ 72,500.00 due to the \$ 5000.00 carry over, and this would increase the amount of available spending (to meet the 125 percent requirement) to a total of \$ 58,000.00.

Jay will revise this proposed budget based on some ideas that were presented regarding priorities and circulate those by e-mail. We will discuss and revise this proposed budget by e-mail over the next several weeks so that we can come to the June 2 board meeting with a well developed proposal that can be finalized at that time. It was also agreed that a “contingency” budget should be developed that assumes less funding (just in case) that could be used to help us make any hard budgeting decisions that might have to be made if funding is not as high as anticipated.

Katana Social and Environmental Justice Committee Meeting
Discussion regarding Sustainability Project, cooperative project with
Utah Conservation Corps, From May 8, 2009
Report to the CVUU Board, May 12, 2009

Three projects possible to focus on:

- Solar Voltaic
- Green Sanctuary
- Sustainability program along the lines of the Master Gardener or Master Conservation programs

UCC volunteer role

- Improve the environmental quality of the community
- Educator for CVUU members
 - How to do energy audits
 - How to sustain program
 - How to make traveling program
 - Where to look for resources
 - How can we become better stewards of environmental sustainability
- Get community buy-in

Volunteer will

- Have booth at Farmer's Market
- Work on project foundation first, sub-projects will grow out of early work
- 40 hours/week; daytime, evening hours, Saturday farmer's market
- will fly in May 27th, has all day UCC meeting May 28th, start at CVUU May 29th, completion August 12th

Project

- Project will focus on community outreach
- Viability, benefits, of solar panel project will fit better than Green Sanctuary project
- Any project with environmental sustainability can become part of Green Sanctuary if CVUU decides to commit to this at a later date.
- The beginning of Matt's task should be organizational ("set the stage");
 - General guidance by CVUU over specific
 - Project specifics will grow out of foundational work.
 - *Create a website
 - *assessment of CVUU facility,
 - *learn what is needed to do an energy audit/assessment assess,
 - *create a vision,
 - *develop an action plan,
 - *identify tools available (audit of resources); church, congregational expertise (who from church has what to offer such as expertise in water system, electricity, etc), community expertise

As project evolves

fundraising will need to be a component
Learning what financial resources may be available
LDS Church grant
Veetch grant

Goals

CVUU becoming a community model; open house, educational facility
Taking programs out to the community
Making this a sustainable program
Education for CVUU congregation

Volunteer's Needs

Place to stay
Bike (walk the walk, he will not have a car)
Office (will use CVUU office); keys, internet, phone, office supplies
Supervision, need someone for suggestions, sign-off on hours, tasks
To have meeting with CVUU members, week of June 5th
Non-CVUU person to help supervise would be helpful
CVUU person to work at booth on Saturdays
Person to be his apprentice, to sustain program

Committee discussion/recommendations following end of call

Public Relations needed as soon as Matt gets comfortable
Article in Herald Journal
Utah Public radio (Susie volunteered to contact them next week)
Other radio stations (KVNU)
Board and congregation understanding that this will take time, patience
Benefit of Matt keeping a daily blog
Everyone can follow Matt's progress, frustrations
CVUU communicating with other NGO's, informing, offering assistance
CVUU to volunteer to work with LEAF and other organizations doing
environmental sustainability work
The need to find a person to act in apprentice role to ensure ongoing sustainability
of this project

Potential Budget; revised 5/12/09 (Jay Black)

The following is based on a projected income of \$ 67,500.00 and total expenses of \$ 54,000.00, which would allow us to meet the 125 percent "debt coverage ratio" banks will insist on.

Projected Income:

Income Source	Projected Total Annual Amount
Pledges	\$ 54,269.00 ¹
Rent	\$ 9,000.00 ²
Fundraisers	\$ 1,231.00
Sunday Collections	\$ 3,000.00 ³
Total	\$ 67,500.00

+ 5K 72,500

Projected and Proposed Expenses:

Category	Monthly	Annual
Mortgage	\$ 2030.00	\$ 24,360.00
Utilities	\$ 300.00 ⁴	\$ 3,640.00
Lay Leader	\$ 800.00 ⁵	\$ 9,600.00
RE	\$ 200.00 ⁶	\$ 2,400.00
UUA/MDD dues	\$ 200.00 ⁷	\$ 2,400.00
Child Care	\$ 150.00	\$ 1,800.00
SS Taxes	\$ 150.00 ⁸	\$ 1,800.00
All other	\$ 203.00	\$ 8,000.00
Total		\$54,000.00

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58,000

¹ As of 5/12, we have \$42,950 pledged. The 19 people who pledged in 08-09, but from whom we have not yet heard, gave \$11,319 in 08-09. Combining the \$42,950 and \$11,319 gives us \$54,269.

² This assumes \$ 750.00 per month in rental income. \$500.00 per month with the preschool, plus \$80 per month from the Buddhists, plus Peaceworks, plus any other rentals, should bring us a minimum of \$750 per month.

³ This is only \$60 per week for 50 weeks.

⁴ Anything we can do to reduce this will be a benefit. Killing the lawn and getting a much better hot water heater have been discussed.

⁵ Here I have assumed a slight increase in what we pay Beth. I believe we are currently paying her \$ 737.00 per month. There have been discussions that she might be willing to increase her work to take on some administrative or support functions.

⁶ We have discussed totally eliminating this. The amount I have shown is roughly half of what we are currently paying (\$ 454.00 per month, I believe). In my view the \$ 200.00 shown could be used either to pay someone for limited work or be used as the RE's committee budget, allowing them to do more that way.

⁷ I have assumed we cut our contributions to UUA/MDD roughly in half (we are currently paying \$ 420.00 per month, I believe).

⁸ If we cut back on RE and are no longer paying Jo, I would assume this amount might be reduced a bit.