

Sacramento United Methodist Union DRAFT Minutes

January 16, 2014 at Central UMC

In Attendance: Matt Smith, Linda Dew-Hiersoux, Joseph Archer, Alan Pedersen, Neal Harrell, Cynthia Lawrence, Robin Marese, Doris Baxter, Tina Ballagh, Betty Jo Rose, Joyce Brinsky, Gloria Phinney, Bob Kamuf, Ronald Hopeer, Vince Lepore, Judie Streeter

Excused Absences: none reported

Matt Smith welcomed everyone and invited each person around the circle to share their name and the church they represent.

Pastor Neal Harrell opened with prayer.

ACTION ITEM: Please send Church Development Spending Policy to Gloria Phinney, Joyce Brinsky, and Doris Baxter.

MSP Minutes from November 21, 2013

Committee Structure & Vision for 2014:

Matt Smith shared his vision for SUMU and began with a passage by Walter Brueggeman which inspires him. We are called by God to live into God's realm where love wins. This is a summons to a risky investment that the world often thinks foolish. It is an investment in God's future. We gather in the amazing and phenomenal hope of those brothers and sisters who have gone before us as members of SUMU. They left a legacy for us to continue.

In our birth (SUMU) we were here to plant new communities to reach new people. We have become a group that helps patch together dying churches. We have worked to gather our resources, and are ready and on the brink of our new future. Matt shared some of the story of The Table at Central UMC which SUMU helped to resurrect. Matt closed by sharing about a Lutheran church of Oak Park that was on the brink of closure, but made the courageous decision to redevelop its property for cooperative senior housing and communal worship. How will we (SUMU) return to our roots and help develop new places to reach new people in the coming year?

Matt then distributed the committee interest sheet for 2014 and invited SUMU representatives to consider which committees they would like to join and/or lead for the coming year.

Our District Superintendent, Rev. Schuyler Rhodes, was not able to attend because of a conflicting meeting with the Board of Ordained Ministry.

In Schuyler's absence, Neal Harrell shared our DS's vision for Bridges District and invited everyone in attendance to join our DS for a resurrection conversation in

February. All churches in the area are invited to a Resurrection conversation February 15, 2014 @ Japanese UMC 9:30-3:30 pm.

Treasurer's Report (Attached) Vince Lepore

Finance Report

Ron reviewed our Asset Allocation of Funds. We currently allocate 54.5% in stocks and 45.5% in bonds. The asset allocation recommendation is 50% in each. Ron reviewed the Spending Policy we passed in November of 2013. Ron has taken the asset totals over the last five years and created the 5-year trailing average (\$521,308). Our spending policy says we can spend up to 5% of this amount.

Finance committee recommends that we leave the asset allocation as is with a 55/45 break so that we can spend \$25,000 on grant(s). No vote necessary since this is our current policy voted upon last month.

Questions emerged regarding the underlying assumption of 2% inflation. Do we agree? Not all in attendance believe this assumption to be accurate, but we will meet in the meantime and be able to keep tabs on the situation. We can continue this "rear view" of inflation each year and make adjustments as needed in the future.

Church Development

Joe was sick over last month and so letter soliciting grants went out 2 weeks late. Church Development is sending the letter of invitation for grant proposals with Joe & Neal's phone number and email to help weed out inappropriate requests.

1st Grant Deadline adjusted to March 15, 2014.

2nd Grant Deadline end of June 2014

Camperships

Tina reported that Camperships haven't met yet, but are planning to meet at the end of January 2014.

Budget 2014

Vince walked us through an extension of Income Statement (far right column) which was passed out to SUMU representatives.

Budget Change: Drop Sierra Service Project/Conference Related events as separate lines and combine them into a single line called: Scholarships for children or youth

No motion necessary since this comes to SUMU from our Finance Committee.

SUMU by "Yes" affirmed our Budget for 2014.

Archives and History/ Sunshine

Doris Baxter had no report

OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

Kathy LaPoint-Collup closed us with prayer and Matt adjourned the Meeting.

2014 Schedule of Meetings

We will meet on the 3rd Thursdays from noon-1:00 pm

March 20, 2014

(The Table at Central UMC 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819)

May 15, 2014

Wesley UMC???

July 17, 2014

(The Table at Central UMC 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819)

September 18, 2014

(The Table at Central UMC 5265 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95819)

November 20, 2014

(Location TBD)