

**Sacramento United Methodist Union
Meeting Notes- March 17, 2016
First United Methodist Church, Sacramento**

Present: Brenda Jew Waters, Robin Marose, Ken Iritani, Terry Haug, Don Lee, Joe Archer, Cathy Cook, Robert Kamuf, Sergio Mendiola, Jose Ramos, Martha Talula, Kathy LaPoint-Collup, Cynthia Lawrence, Terry Haug, Robert Kamuf, Alan Pedersen, Shigeko Shibata, Carol Edwards, Neal Harrell, Linda Dew-Hiersoux, Matt Smith, Mike Harrell

Don Lee opened meeting with song

Grant report from First Church, Sacramento-

This older adult outreach and support program is funded with a Beulah Grant and SUMU grant. SUMU grant provides compensation for a program leader. This is currently a pilot project. Work is being done to mentor and equip volunteers to continue the program after the pilot phase is concluded. There are approximately 14 people on this equipping track, they represent a cross section of different religious communities. Board also received written report of the program leader's specific areas of focus, insights and learnings thus far in the process. One ongoing area of interest is how to include a larger United Methodist contingent of leaders and volunteers from other local UM congregations. It was suggested that Davis UMC might be a good contact as they are also recipients of a Beulah grant in an effort to engage in ministry with older adults.

Minutes of January meeting M/S/A. Matt will email list of committee volunteers to the full board.

District Report- Matt reported that another Bridges District Resurrection Conversation was held a couple of weeks ago. DS has also announced his intention to work with a sub group to identify 4-5 churches on the brink of closure to engage in conversation about their future and to ensure their legacies live on, in and through, new and existing churches.

Treasurer Report- Offered by Carol in Vince's absence. It was noted SUMU has not received our portion of 2015 askings from the Conference. Emmanuel UMC is current on their loan. Rio Linda missed payment in February. Market value for Church Development Fund was down in January/February but is coming up so far this month. Baxter bequest to SUMU is still in process, but \$165 in individual memorial donations in their name was noted. Carol will send email, copied to DS, Matt, and Kathy inquiring as to status of SUMU 2015 askings.

Finance Report- Overall, SUMU has received 3 loan requests in the last two months. North Sacramento UMC loan was granted at January 2016 meeting. There are still a number of contingencies that have not been met, including an official Charge Conference action to formalize the terms of the loan. Requests from SUMU for updates on these issues have not been answered by representative of North Sacramento UMC or the DS. Carol will continue to follow up. SUMU has received confirmation that their property insurance was paid. The DS has indicated that May 1st is the launch date of their new ministry presence in the community.

SUMU has not received a report back on the status of the Conference Wide Loan proposal that extension societies were asked to consider last fall. While SUMU declined to participate in that program as proposed, SUMU did agree to consider individual loan requests from churches

outside the boundaries of SUMU, but according to the loan request process that SUMU already has in place. A loan request from Ely UMC in amount of \$250,000 was reviewed and declined by SUMU. Matt will contact Dave Samelson about needing further clarification on the status of the Conference wide loan proposal and SUMU's specific response to the loan request from Ely UMC.

Pastor and two lay members from Emmanuel UMC made a request for a \$8,685 loan from SUMU to pay for the remaining balance of roof repair work to church building and parsonage. They request this additional amount be added to the \$1,741.78 balance of their current loan from SUMU, at an interest rate of 6%. Finance committee recommends the granting of the loan and continuance of \$200 per month payment terms. Question was raised about SUMU's maximum loan policy and whether this request was within the parameters of that. Carol will research that question and report back to the board. Question was raised about the long-term financial viability of the Emmanuel congregation, and a hope that they would engage in some significant conversation among themselves and with others around that question. SUMU approved grant as requested and recommended by Finance committee, contingent upon verification that it is below the threshold of the maximum loan policy.

Church Development Committee- Grant notifications from last cycle are still in process of being sent. SUMU board will consider a new round of grant requests at the May 26th meeting. Joe will get grant application announcements out to SUMU churches right after Easter. Church Development team will meet prior to May 26 meeting to review and make recommendations. Additional participation in this process from other SUMU members would be appreciated, please let Joe or Neal know if you are interested.

New Business- The issue of possibly lowering the interest rate on SUMU loans was raised. A sub-committee will explore the issue and report at our July meeting.

Meeting Schedule-

May 26, 2016 @ The Table (Kathy will facilitate in Matt's absence)

July 21, 2016 @ The Table

September 15, 2016 @ Foothills UMC

November 17, 2016 @ The Table

submitted by- Mike Harrell