

**UUFVB Board of Trustees Minutes**  
**January 16, 2020**

**Call to Order:** at 4:30 PM by Board President Cate Wenzing. The chalice was lit, and Coco Burt gave the **Opening Words**. All present **Checked In**.

**Members Present:** Pres. Cate Wenzing, Sec. Suzy Bromwell, Treas. Rebecca Hornbuckle, Coco Burt, Ken Klein, Tom Tierney, Rev. Scott Alexander (ex officio), and Jonnie Mae Perry by phone. **Absent Excused:** Kathy Cossa and Barbara Dunst. **Guests Present:** Woody Sutton, Bonnie Shelton and Jim Daly.

**Process Observer:** Coco Burt volunteered.

**Member Request:** Bonnie Shelton, Newsletter Editor, requested regular updates about Board actions be written for the newsletter. By consensus, the Board decided to add Bonnie to the Board's email list and asked her to write articles summarizing Board actions. Before including her summaries in the newsletter, she will send them to Cate for review.

**Member Presentation:** As a follow up to an earlier Board discussion about the possibility of purchasing property that abuts the UUFVB campus, Jim Daly met with John Maher and made a lengthy presentation that included pictures, property valuation and comparisons. The Board discussed potential uses for the property and the pros and cons of purchasing it.

Tom Tierney made a motion, seconded by Ken Klein, to make an offer on the property. After a review of the Bylaws that state the Board is prohibited from buying or selling property without a vote of the membership, the motion failed.

Ken Klein agreed to head a committee comprised of Jim Daly, Chuck Campbell and John Maher, and report their findings at a special called **Executive Session scheduled for Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 PM**.

**Also on the Executive Session agenda** will be an update by Tom Tierney on litigation filed in Small Claims Court against UUFVB by Walsh & Palmer, the company that represents the Celtic Angles. The dispute has to do with a per ticket fee in the contract found by UUFVB Accountant Elizabeth Borne while auditing income from two Celtic Angels performances in December 2019.

**Consent Agenda:** A **motion** to accept the minutes of the December 19, 2019 meeting as presented was approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

1. Rebecca reported that UUFVB finances are in good shape and the Bastian Matching Campaign funds have been applied to reducing the mortgage.
2. Because of the late hour, a discussion about oversight of Emerson Center contracts will be postponed until February's Board meeting.

**Minister's Report:**

1. Scott reported that both the New Year's Brunch and lunch with Affiliate Ministers were "great."
2. He reported that all plans for the 2020-2021 Stewardship Campaign are in place, under Coco Burt's leadership. Amy Gallo Thoma will organize the kick off brunch, with members helping serve.

**The Board Meeting briefly adjourned for an Executive Session:** Rev. Alexander explained a sensitive personnel matter. Board members made suggestions, and Scott will follow through.

**The Board Meeting reconvened.**

**President's Report:** None

**Old Business:**

1. Because of the late hour, the contract between the Emerson Center/UUFVB and MusicWorks for the purchase of audio equipment will be discussed at the February Board meeting.

**New Business:**

1. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Items for the Annual Meeting booklet must be submitted in early March, to allow time to send and receive absentee ballots.
2. A discussion about updating the policy regarding the use of UUFVB's name on Emerson Center and Bridges promotional material will be held at the February Board meeting.

**Board Committee Reports:** Reports from the Emerson Center and Bridges were emailed to Board members. Woody Sutton reported that the Finance Committee held a productive meeting and the committee is "heavy into the budget" for FY 2020-2021.

**Process Observer's Report:** Coco Burt reported Board members discussed complicated issues but everyone was "in good humor."

**Meeting Adjourned:** at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzy Bromwell, Secretary

**UUFVB Board Executive Session (LONG VERSION)**  
**January 30, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Board President Cate Wenzing called the Executive Session to order at 4 PM.

**Members Present:** Pres. Cate Wenzing, VP Kathy Cossa, Sec. Suzy Bromwell. Treas. Rebecca Hornbuckle, Coco Burt, Ken Klein, Barbara Dunst, Tom Tierney, by phone Jonnie Mae Perry, and Rev. Scott Alexander (ex officio).

Ken Klein presented information from his research, about the Albrecht property that abuts the UUFVB campus, and from conversations with Chuck Campbell and Jim Daly. The property has been listed for \$335,000. The seller is not interested in splitting the property. Tom Tierney made a **motion**, seconded by Rebecca Hornbuckle, to not make an offer on the Albrecht property. The motion passed unanimously.

Because there's a possibility the terms of sale may change, Scott suggested that owner David Albrecht be contacted by either Jim Daly or John Maher, to let Mr. Albrecht know that the UUFVB Congregation may be interested if the situation changes. Ken said there is no solid information yet to present to the Congregation.

**Guest Present:** Steve Becker, Emerson Center Executive Director

Tom Tierney, with Steve Becker's input, explained details of the Small Claims Court lawsuit filed against UUFVB by Walsh & Palmer Productions, LLC. It is a partnership between David Walsh and Rhett Palmer that promoted the Celtic Angels performances in 2018 and 2019. The terms of 2018 and 2019 contracts were the same, even though the Celtic Angels performed once in 2018 and twice in 2019. The dispute has to do with a \$5 per ticket fee, spotted in 2019 by UUFVB Accountant Elizabeth Borne, not charged in 2018.

Kathy Cossa made a **motion**, seconded by Barbara Dunst "to authorize Tom Tierney to negotiate a reasonable settlement with Walsh & Palmer Productions, LLC up to the full amount requested by the plaintiffs, Walsh & Palmer Productions, with hopes that a reasonable compromise can be achieved." The motion passed unanimously.

The contract between UUFVB/EC and MusicWorks (MW), for audio equipment was discussed. Rebecca, Tom and Steve reviewed the contract and sent it to MW. It came back with changes. UUFVB/EC is to pay \$12,787 annually on March 1<sup>st</sup> of 2020, 2021 and 2022. If UUFVB/EC breaks the contract before the 2021-22 Season, MW wants to keep our money. They will only donate the equipment to the EC, if we extend the contract through 2023. Although Steve signed the contract, Tom made a **motion**, seconded by Suzy, to go back to the original terms of the contract, since we are unwilling to extend the contract past 2022." It passed unanimously. Steve announced his intention to resign in April, following the last MW event.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Suzy Bromwell, Secretary

**UUFVB Board Executive Session (SHORT VERSION)**  
**January 30, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Board President Cate Wenzing called the Executive Session to order at 4 PM.

**Members Present:** Pres. Cate Wenzing, VP Kathy Cossa, Sec. Suzy Bromwell. Treas. Rebecca Hornbuckle, Coco Burt, Ken Klein, Barbara Dunst, Tom Tierney, by phone Jonnie Mae Perry, and Rev. Scott Alexander (ex officio).

Ken Klein presented information from his research, about the Albrecht property that abuts the UUFVB campus, and from conversations with Chuck Campbell and Jim Daly. The property has been listed for \$335,000. The seller is not interested in splitting the property. Tom Tierney made a **motion**, seconded by Rebecca Hornbuckle, to not make an offer on the Albrecht property. The motion passed unanimously.

**Guest Present:** Steve Becker, Emerson Center Executive Director

Tom Tierney, with Steve Becker's input, explained details of the Small Claims Court lawsuit filed against UUFVB by Walsh & Palmer Productions, LLC.

Kathy Cossa made a **motion**, seconded by Barbara Dunst "to authorize Tom Tierney to negotiate a reasonable settlement with Walsh & Palmer Productions, LLC up to the full amount requested by the plaintiffs, Walsh & Palmer Productions, with hopes that a reasonable compromise can be achieved." The motion passed unanimously.

The contract between UUFVB/EC and MusicWorks (MW), for audio equipment was discussed. Tom Tierney will give an update at the Board's meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjourned** at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzy Bromwell, Secretary