

Nominating Committee Meeting

June 6, 2017

Present: Neil Marinello, Mary Jeanne Taylor, Hope Yeager, Susan Inui.

Absent: Irene Hanslin.

Neil began the meeting by discussing our committee's assignment of creating a Canvass Task Force. Neil spoke with Mary Hawkins and Rick Fiske from last year's Canvass. Mary Jeanne spoke with Kathy Beaird. Hope spoke with Ann Wynia. Susan pointed out that of those only Rick Fiske did the canvass work. Neil noted that Mary Hawkins is not planning on working on this year's canvass. The capital campaign task force has the intention of having the capital campaign be over by the end of the summer so it does not overlap with the canvass for the Annual Appeal. The capital campaign is being run by: Susan Inui, Denise Lyons, Anne Dean, Ann Wynia, Chris Bartlett, Michael Stoner, Peggy Kannenstine, Chris Lloyd, Vassie Sinopoulous.

Neil reported on his meeting with Mary. She did the writing of the materials sent out with last year's canvass. Her main point was to keep the topic of the Annual Appeal in the eyes of the congregation through the Quest, In Touch, Order of Service, letter that was sent out. Mary mentioned that there was a launch meeting at the start which really helped.

Susan reiterated the Board's request for Nominating Committee to find a leader for the Canvass Task Force. Rick Fiske assured Neil that he would participate again in this year's canvass. Neil got the impression that Rick would rather not be the one in charge of the canvass task force. Patsy was the one who recruited the people who spoke every Sunday during the Annual Appeal.

Neil talked through the process of how the Annual Appeal goal is reached by the budget being created through the Finance Committee working with Ann Wynia by mid-September. Susan said that at tonight's committee café the committees would be asked to create their budgets by the end of the summer.

Neil noted that Rick wished that the people giving the testimonials on Sundays during the Annual Appeal had paid more attention to the thermometer each week. We discussed the extent to which folks at the North Chapel are uncomfortable talking about money and pledging. We discussed that there needs to be more education among North Chapel members and friends about how pledging works and how it is different than just putting cash in the plate on Sunday.

Susan encouraged us to look through the directory to find possible leaders for the canvass committee. Mary Jeanne also said that we can put out a general request through the Quest, In Touch, and through mentioning this need during Sunday services. Mary Jeanne suggested engaging the congregation in bigger conversations about money and giving. Neil wondered if we could get someone from the NE UU office to come and talk to the congregation about the topic of giving.

Neil mentioned that he thought of Matt Friedman but he must be exhausted from being on the Search Committee. Mary Jeanne said that we still need to ask people even if we think those people are unlikely to say yes. Neil also thought of asking Richard Schramm. Mary Jeanne mentioned that Kathy Beaird felt that she didn't do much last year with it. Maybe she would be willing to be a part of the task force again this year.

Susan pointed out that this task has a specific beginning and a specific end point. We have the parts of the process, the written examples of what was used last year, the model of what works well. Neil said he feels like we need to have people lined up by the end of June. Hope mentioned that she will be away June 19 - July 11. Mary Jeanne said she would start by going back to Kathy Beard and ask if she would be willing to join the Annual Appeal task force again this year. Susan suggested that Mary Jeanne also ask Brooke Beard if he would be willing to work on the Annual Appeal as well. Mary Jeanne said she would ask Irene if she would come up with a list of names of people to be asked.

Neil said he would speak again with Rick Fiske about working on the Annual Appeal. He said he would also ask Kathy Fiske if she would be willing to make the thermometer again this year. Neil said he would also talk to Chris Bartlett. We discussed approaching new people as well about their interest in getting involved with committees. Mary Jeanne said she would touch base with Geraldine about any new families who have started coming who might be likely candidates for participating on the Annual Appeal task force.

Neil told Susan that he hoped she would continue to attend our meetings if possible. But at the very least he wanted to communicate to the Board that the capital campaign task force needs to educate the congregation on the difference between the capital campaign and the annual appeal for the operating budget.

We discussed talking with the Worship Committee about doing a service about giving and money. Susan pointed out that the UU churches around us also do annual appeals and they may have someone in their congregation who is a good speaker who could talk on this topic. Neil said he would contact the New England UU region office about having someone coming to North Chapel to talk about pledging.

We decided that our next meeting would be Wednesday, July 12, at 5:30 p.m. Mary Jeanne said she would ask Geraldine about reserving the Library for our meeting.

Hope said that she would come up with a list of names of possible people to ask for the Annual Appeal Task Force before she leaves on June 19. Mary Jeanne confirmed with Susan that we are looking for 4 -5 people for the Annual Appeal canvass.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope Yeager