

Resource Committee Meeting 4/6/2014

For the Board: What do you think about a more personal pledge drive this year? Would the Board be willing to help? Do you want to come to our "retreat" (not fully organized yet)?

Present: Rick Fiske, Jack Nelson, Lynn Peterson, Deb Rice, Neil Stannard

We discussed plans for this year's fund raising for our pledge drive and capital campaign. We are planning to have a retreat next month, perhaps the weekend of 5/2 or 5/9.

Lynn has ordered the Beyond Fundraising books written by Mr. Clark of the UUA. He (Wayne Clark) felt we (NUCS) were not doing as well as we could with our pledge drive and mini-capital campaign. He felt that we needed a more direct personal contact with pledging members. This is inconsistent with our philosophy in recent years. Clark heads up fund-raising for the UUA and offers to provide us with a skype type conference call that would last about 1.5 hours. This would help us get started and give some suggestions for the next steps. Karen Wolk could not be with us today but said she could be available in early May; generally it has seemed that Fridays were good for her in terms of traveling from NH.

The church's IT facility would not easily allow a group conference call but the Library may be set up to let us do that. Rick and Neil will see if we could meet in the upstairs conference room at the Library after using the Mezzanine for a conference call.

We felt we could not afford the \$6,000 price tag for a full fund raising training from the UUA. Rick suggested finding out if we could to go Boston and meet with Mr. Clark there. That might be less expensive and feasible since we are relatively close to Boston. Lynn will see if that's possible.

We discussed options for starting our pledge drive other than the auction and potluck dinner we have had at the church the past few years. We had previously discussed the possibility of a more elaborate dinner with guest speaker(s). William Schulz a UU minister who has been a world leader in human rights and is a terrific speaker was suggested but others felt we should have something that is more "fun".

We are not sure whether doing another auction would work – donors were more reluctant this last year. Golf, croquet and a more elaborate live auction were mentioned.

Deb mentioned the District UU meeting at our church last month. She found it very insightful; the speaker pointed out how success in having a vibrant, active congregation meant going beyond one's comfort zone, avoiding the happiness trap and be willing to experience some disequilibrium.

Our next meeting in early May will involve further contact with the UUA and working towards a retreat.

Respectfully,
Lynn Peterson