

## Resource and Finance Committee Meeting, March 2, 2014

Present – Laird Bradley, Chris Lloyd, Jack Nelson, Lynn Peterson, Deb Rice, Neil Stannard

For the Board:

Inviting a guest speaker from either the UUA or the NNED to get some new ideas and guidance in fund raising. Should this be coordinated with what the Board is planning to do?

### 1. Lynn reported on the final results of the Pledge Drive:

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Amount	130,000	142,000	145,000	145,000
Pledges	107	120	114	104
Donors	159	175	163	152

While the amount of money is roughly the same this year, as last, the number of pledges and the number of donors has declined by ~10%. This may not be a significant decline and we were able to raise the same amount of money. We can conclude that starting earlier in the year and using a more inspiring announcement didn't increase our funding.

We also discussed Rick Fiske's opinion that it would not be worthwhile to do another (4<sup>th</sup>) Silent Auction as part of the Pledge Dinner.

2. Options for this year. We discussed doing something different; perhaps even something reaching beyond church members – reaching out to the greater community. There were 2 ideas

- A more formal dinner perhaps at the Woodstock or Blue Horse Inn with a speaker with broad appeal that might fit with Daniel's interest in immigration and human rights. Reaching out to the Hanover/Dartmouth/Woodstock community was mentioned.
- A live auction similar to the one done 5 or 6 years ago which netted approximately \$20,000. Ron Jaynes was the auctioneer and people generally had a good time; it was done in the Masonic Temple.

2. We discussed having a retreat to focus more on fund raising both long and short term. Deb said the Board is planning to have someone come from the UUA office to

talk with the Board – perhaps we could coordinate with the Board and have a speaker who could address both Leadership and Fund Raising? We would definitely plan to have both Finance and Resource Committee members attend. Right now it looks like March and April will not be good – So we will aim for May.

3. Neil mentioned that a Burlington UU church use their web site to create an opportunity for planned giving all year long. That might be a good idea for us. Neil will check to see how they do it and how it works.

4. VT-Quebec UU Association – grant applications are due in the next few weeks. One of the items on our list is to insulate the ceiling of the sanctuary. Last year we applied for financial aid to paint the church – this year we will seek help with insulation.

5. Chris plans to move some of the reserve fund money from Wells Fargo to Vermont Community Foundation soon. He will ask Mary Jeanne to sign/approve this plan which has been approved by the Board and the Congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Peterson