

Union Church Mission Board  
Meeting Minutes (Summary) from Feb 2, 2010

Financial - moved we donate \$500 to Partners in Health for Haiti which was not appropriated earlier (approved unanimously)

Emergency Loan Fund - appeal for additional Emergency Loan Funds in the Bulletin

Santa Marta. Dorothy Chao reviewed the history of this project. Union Church has financially supported CoCoDa in working for the community of Santa Marta in El Salvador. They are giving our donations to: (1) the community to use as they choose and, (2) to fund scholarships for children of the area.

Restructuring Church Boards. Betty Hibler presented the GC draft proposal on restructuring church boards. The draft proposes that the responsibilities of the deacons and trustees be divided to result in eight boards. The Mission Board will become the "Mission and Service Board" with responsibilities similar to the current board.

We will have an 18 month pilot project to refine these proposals. Each board will have one representative on a "Church Council" (replacing the General Committee) to oversee and coordinate church activities. Present board members are invited to consider their commitment in light of the new structure and smaller boards. The 2010 budget is being re-divided among the new boards.

Restructuring the Mission Board. Last month we reviewed a vision for the new Mission Board focusing on developing and overseeing long-term projects to which Union Church can commit finances, leadership, and people. At this meeting we discussed a proposal to restructure the Mission and Service Board to meet that vision. We will have a Chair and a Secretary/Treasurer. Other members will assume responsibility for coordinating a "portfolio" of projects by keeping contact with the people carrying out each project, offering support and encouragement, and inviting them to report to the full board periodically. The new board will also review short-term projects and encourage church members (including the new "Small Groups") to develop them into full-fledged, long-term projects.

We will all think on these proposals for the next meeting.

Back Bay Mission - A report was received on how the Back Bay Mission group would like to distribute their remaining funds.

For next meeting and for consideration:

Bazaar - we need a new leader for this.

CFL Project - Doug has ideas for reviving this project.

Raised Bed Gardens - Teri says Paul Smithson is interested in continuing this.

Submitted by Doug Hindman