



## Location Team (BOF/BO) – Oct. 27, 2023

*Our mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.*

### Meeting Minutes

**Attending:** Greg Turosak (team lead), George Huston, John Helmers, Kim Reid, Gail Bishop, Dave Pesch, Erika Fetterman

1. **Call to order/reading/chalice lighting.** Greg called the meeting to order and provided a reading. The chalice was lit.
2. **Update on 20-foot strip (ROW) on Walden Lane.** Greg reported that he has spoken for a third time with Joe Kroeger of the neighboring Jehovah's Witnesses church, and that Joe is still trying to identify which higher-ups can meet with us to discuss the right-of-way issue.
3. **Sale of Walden Lane property.** Kim said we should review the cost estimates for the new building in November before placing the Walden Lane property on the market. She said there's a tentative date of Dec. 1 for putting the property on the market. John said that the First UU Board has authorized Kim and himself to sign an agreement retaining Dan Groteboer as our Realtor for sale of the property. At this point, the agreement is in draft form, and a few items may change. The property would be placed on the MLS real estate property listing. The plan is to list the property for \$4.75 million, with a goal of taking in at least \$4 million. John said we have received a generous fund-raising match challenge from Claire Langton Yanowitz's family and her parents, Diane Langton and Alan Yanowitz. They will match all funds raised by the congregation between Oct. 25 and year's end (separate from the capital campaign) 50 cents on the dollar, up to \$10,000. So, if congregants raise \$20,000, we would receive the full \$10,000 match. Kim said that it would take a minimum of 6-8 months to close on an offer to buy the property. She said that if the property does sell quickly, Rev. Luke has feelers out for a number of options if our church needs a temporary home prior to the new building being ready. Regarding fund-raising, UUA consultant Rachel Maxwell will present findings of her financial feasibility study at a forum on Nov. 8 (via Zoom). The forum will be recorded and shown again the following Sunday (Nov. 12).
4. **Latest on communications with Centurion Ridge HOA.** Kim said she has been in touch with the HOA, and they have sent us a number of dates that would work for them to meet with us. They are primarily interested in discussing site access issues. Consensus was to communicate back to the HOA suggesting 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 21, as a good date for a meeting from our perspective. Our plan would be to start the team meeting later than usual that day – at 3 p.m., with representatives of the HOA joining us at 4 p.m. Dave suggested that we should discuss more about our agenda with them prior to that meeting.
5. **Other.** Greg brought up a number of items:
  - a. **Review of our team's goals.** We set team goals when we organized earlier this year. Greg suggested that it would be good to review progress on those goals at a team meeting in November or December.
  - b. **Team meeting dates.** Greg said he would distributed suggested team meeting dates for January through March 2024 in the near future.
  - c. **Developing a plan forward for working with the city on issues such as development plan, annexation, and related issues.** Agreement was to plan for an

extensive discussion of this at our team's Dec. 7 meeting. Dave said he would contact Logan Tjossem of Widseth, our civil engineering firm, to see if that date works for them. In advance of that, we would better define what we'd like to accomplish at that meeting.

- d. **UU church in Duluth.** Greg mentioned that during a recent trip to the North Shore, he and Katherine Logan visited the UU church in Duluth, a church previously visited, pre-COVID, by the Building Our Future team. He described a few features he liked and some areas we might be aware of in our planning process.

**Next meeting: Nov. 9**

**Adjourn**

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak (team lead)