

Policy Committee Report to Board of Trustees for April 17, 2017

Safe Congregation Response Team Policy: Discussion of this policy continues. It was agreed that this policy should not contain any language that suggests or supports any role for the SCRT in vetting or approving candidates. The role should be to gather and organize information from the confidential sources available to the Team and then convey that information to the board and the Leadership Development Committee, as appropriate.

It was agreed that the paragraph which appears on page 4 of the current discussion draft and which begins with “All persons seeking paid employment at UUCGT” should be relocated to the personnel policies, as it pertains to hiring.

It is understood that the above-stated points are recommendations to the board, as the Policy Committee functions in an advisory role.

Building Rental Policy updates: The draft rental policy forwarded to the Board for its March 20 meeting is being resubmitted to the Board, at its April meeting, with deletions (strikethrough) and additions (red font) marked.

Prioritizing Work: The three members present at the March 20 meeting of the committee (Judy Myer, Price Watts, Tom Darnton) recognized that the Policy Manual as presently published has a number of internal inconsistencies and conflicts with the By-laws, and that cleaning all this up is a very large task that can only be accomplished over time. It is also important that the committee be able to balance its own vision of taking on this task with the needs of the congregation for clarification or establishment of policies as presented to the committee by the board. The value of having an organizational chart from which to work was recognized. Judy offered to circulate a draft which she had previously prepared for board consideration.

The above paragraph notwithstanding, the following material from this committee’s February 20 report to the board is included here:

Social Witness Committee Policy: The standard approach of the Policy Committee is to request a committee whose policy is under consideration to prepare language for the Policy Committee to work with, that such a committee should prepare a first draft which the Policy Committee would then conform to language and format consistent with the Policy Manual.

We refer this back to the Board to charge the newly-organized Social Witness Committee with composing a first draft of its description (reworking Social Justice and Action Committee, pp. 43-45), using the Standing Committees guidelines on pp. 29-30 of the Policy Manual, and providing this draft to the Policy Committee.