

UUC Memorial Committee

Annual Report 2019-2020

Purpose of the UUC Memorial Committee is to maintain, enhance and regulate the use of a memorial garden space for the UUC to be used as a long-term repository for cremains and as a peaceful area for meditation and remembrance. Its messaged pavers and scattered or encased cremains are reminders of those people and ideas that have enabled our spiritual growth. The Committee keeps a Registry of persons memorialized in the Garden and provides a Book of Treasures in which are recorded the origins of gift items that are visible on the premises. For more information, see our Web page: <https://uucnrv.org/memorial_committee/>.

Board-Approved Members: Bobbie Littlefield, (Chair & Registry); Dick Bauman, (Congregation Liaison); Arthur Snoke, (Treasurer & Web); Susan Baker, (Grounds Caretaker); Tim Pickering; (Installation/ Scattering Caretaker); Isabel Berney: (Book of Treasures).

Achievements/ Activities.

1. The Memorial Garden Committee's primary concern this past year has been the replacement of its disintegrating tar surfaced entry pathway from the main building. Some of us were hoping for a more permanent (but, alas, expensive) cement walkway. The decision was delayed while negotiations were underway with potential suppliers. Eventually Extreme Concrete lowered its price to \$7500 and we have a contract!! The walkway will be extended to the nearby picnic area so it can be more easily accessed by members and MG visitors.
2. There are 28 niches left. The contact person for purchasing niches or remembrance pavers is Dick Bauman, uuduo2@gmail.com (540) 629-0497.
3. A reminder: Dick has set up materials at the end of the inner hallway between the offices with information about the M.G's use and policies.
4. Isabel continues to update the Book of Treasures with information about special gifts made to the UUC .
5. Committee members (personally) gave two bricks to support the 2019 UUC Auction

Future Plans

1. Our minister has been conducting a once-a-month workshop throughout this past year about aging that has been well attended. (Our Committee's help was not needed as the topics were outside our purview.)
2. We'll continue to oversee the MG's maintenance and inform as well as assist members who would like to take advantage of its availability to them as an area for remembrance of people/quotes they revere.
3. We will soon be needing to repair damage to the lawn, and purchase filler soil and/or grass for alongside the new walkway after it is installed in the next month or two.

Budget and Amount Used:

There is a balance of \$6,767.82 in the Memorial Garden Fund. If needed, Bobbie will loan the Committee \$1500 to complete the new path; with an agreement to excuse the loan if she should die before it is repaid. We expect that sales of niches, pavers, and scattering fees will likely continue to cover the long term needs of the memorial garden.

Report Submitted by Bobbie Littlefield on May 25, 2020.