MINUTES, September 17, 2019 meeting of the Lay Leadership Development Committee

Present: Perry Beider, Lydia Fettig, Julie Grimes, Kate Lang (Board liaison), Amanda Poppei (part time)

LLDC recruitment

The LLDC was delighted to know that Adam Briskin-Limehouse has agreed to run for the seat that Julie will be vacating at the fall Membership Meeting. Two other WES members who had been approached about the possibility of running declined to do so. Names of other members to approach were discussed.

Online voting

Perry had begun investigating two internet-based voting services, OpaVote and ElectionBuddy. Both are flexible in the types of voting they allow and relatively inexpensive—$30 and $19 per election, respectively. However, it was not clear how either system would accommodate WES members who don’t use email. Lydia suggested Google Forms as another alternative, but the group realized that that platform wouldn’t allow for anonymous voting. Lydia and Perry agreed to continue their investigations and to talk the following Sunday or Monday.

(Subsequently, Perry learned how to use ElectionBuddy for both email and in-person voting and has set up a test-run election with five voters for the next LLDC meeting.)

Lay leadership development and support

Julie and Perry compared notes on various online courses available through the UUA’s Leadership Development Learning Center. Some of the classes in the Core Leadership Development Series look promising, as do some classes on intercultural skills.

Some ideas for helping WES’s lay leaders recruit more members were discussed, including the possibility of devoting a few minutes at platform for a “Second Sunday Sales Pitch,” in which one team or group would explain what it does and how people could join it.

The group agreed to try to identify one specific effort to undertake in lay leader development and support at its next meeting. In the meantime, Amanda will provide links to a current list of WES teams and groups, and to the existing set of volunteer job descriptions.

Next meeting

In light of the October 27 date of WES’s fall Membership Meeting, the LLDC’s next meeting was moved up from October 15 to October 1.