

UUA SRIC Meeting, 8-19-2014

Present: Simon, Tim, David, Marva, Kimberly and Vonda

- 1) Minutes of May meeting approved
- 2) Report on the IC Meeting
 - a. Committee now allows up to 10 percent of investments to be illiquid which will increase ability to make high impact investments. NEPC will assist planning.
 - b. Added an allocation to Breckenridge from PIMCO allocation;
 - i. will hold bonds in a separate account managed by Breckenridge to reduce risk
 - c. New committee members have institutional focuses, increasing professionalization of IC
 - d. Had a presentation by green real estate funds manager
- 3) Action items from GA:
 - a. Implementation of divestment resolution
 - i. Action: Put manual exclusion on CT-200 that we do not hold as of 6/30.
 - ii. Action: look at CT-200 list at the Spring meeting
 - iii. Action: create list of CT-200 by held, not held, held in advocacy account
 - iv. Action: SB: advocacy plan based on holdings per lists above.
 - b. Goals to underline leadership on climate change
 - i. Action: Lead on AEP dialogue to reduce use of coal and increase disclosure
 - ii. Action: Continue work on political donations/lobbying expenditures; ALEC
 - iii. Action: need to exercise moral authority to increase movement in dialogues
 - iv. Planning: VB: Work on a plan on how to get congregations more involved. Organizations in communities where utilities operate would be most responsive to that stakeholder. Example: First Energy in Ohio. SB: Experiments of having congregations engaged in contacting the company as consumers in addition to our engagement as shareholders. Ohio Organizing Collaborative: an organization we might be able to partner with on this innovative sort of engagement. KG: AEP is the largest emitter of GHG in the US. First Energy is a public company, could be a potential future engagement.
- 4) Proxy voting – tabled until next meeting.
 - a. Action: Tim and Vonda to connect separately. Do before fall season.
- 5) Community investments – Marva
 - a. Voice for Justice - VA based groups that has been working with banks on foreclosure problem for a Restoration Fund. Great coalition. Identified partners: TRF Development Partners, Reinvestment Fund. Working with Industrial Areas Foundation. Creative way to address foreclosures.
 - i. Motion: Designate \$50,000 to VOICE, M, David, 2nd Kimberly. Passed unanimously
 - ii. Action: contact Martin Trimble
 - b. Cooperative Housing/Lucy Stone - Loves sustainability, cooperative housing. Very responsible board of directors. Want to develop a second house.
 - i. Discussion/Action: Concern about whether this serves low income people. Also, this is a direct investment rather than a fund. Additional specific information

- needs to be provided about their low income metrics if they wish to qualify via our Community Investments portfolio. Contacting for additional information.
 - ii. Action: Alternatives going forward for funding projects that are of interest to UUA but don't qualify for the Community Investments portfolio: Consider asking board for CEF allocation of up to 0.25% for this type of special project. And/or have loan program definition changed to allow this loan.
- 6) Consider updating the Sudan exclusion screen – David
 - a. Simon to reach out to Kathy Mulvey, expert in Sudan. Exclusion will remain or be removed based on expert opinion on current situation.
- 7) Issues bubbling up from GA and activists:
 - a. Israel/Palestine
 - i. Discussion/Action: KG: We should be in dialogue with UUs concerned about this issue. In terms of larger context, it's important to get people out of the divestment framework. Sean McMannus who came up with the McBride Principles has come up with Holy Land Principles. Talk about specifics that create human rights violations. Has written to 400+ companies. Doesn't know if he has investor partners. Anita Green is involved. Will talk to Mark Regiere and Anita. Mark doing an "off the program" event at ICCR.
 - b. Monsanto
 - i. Larger General Action: pull a list of all category 4 "Controversy" companies included in the portfolio and manually review with committee once per year.
 - ii. Action: Tabled until manual review for Cat 4 Controversies: Monsanto exclusion could be justified under ethical eating SOC.
 - iii. Discussion/Action: Could consider targeting them regarding lobbying and political donations based on their opposition to CA measure requiring GMO labeling.
 - c. Economic Inequality
 - i. VB: there are actions on the issue of inequality being worked on. There is a lot of traction. She will send information separate. Say-on-pay is one way to get at it. We can co-file and work on collaborative efforts.
 - d. Discussion: Divestment in general: KG: we need a protocol. Prefers the bias that we will not exclude.
- 8) CEF Blog
 - a. Action: review David's blog on fiduciary responsibility
 - b. Action: Need to develop habit of posting updates on SRIC and IC to blog. Blog topics to include: investment committee meetings/actions, community investments, shareholder actions, ceres press releases, sign-on letters
- 9) Critical review of SRIC activities
 - a. Keep going:
 - i. shareholder advocacy with others
 - ii. responsibilities links and connections

- iii. teamwork, dealing with contentious issues
 - iv. process and culture of committee
 - v. way for us to have collective action
 - vi. work with IC - keeping balance right
 - vii. shared leadership among staff and lay leaders
- b. Things to change:
- i. Action: report regularly to board – KG to write preliminary report to Board, DS to edit and follow up.
 - ii. better scheduling and planning – DS to improve notice and work on ways increase effective communication
 - iii. more attention to process and infrastructure
 - iv. insure that investments are aligned with values
 - v. given staff capacity constraints, leverage the experience and time of our lay leaders
 - vi. engage with congregations at district/regional meetings - Marva would do workshops on CDFIs and advocacy
 - vii. Action: email Scott Tayler re: these meetings
 - viii. Action: need to create educational videos; imbed in blog – DS to create a schedule of videos to be created at subsequent meetings for placement on blog/web site
 - ix. Action: SB: supplement the blog with a Facebook group; work very well in concert with blogs; Simon will explore a SRIC Facebook group
 - x. Discussion/Action: VB: report on people’s whose lives are impacted by our work; e.g. stories about people and communities that were hurt by Chevron. Telling a story is better than telling about what the SRIC did.
 - xi. Action: consider adding staff/consultants; perhaps Beth Young, As You Sow
- c. Goal setting
- i. Need to do more education: Do short videos. Case studies and how-to generic tools on how to do it.
 - ii. As a starter, talk about what we do.
 - iii. Action: Add SRI as a regular segment to each quarterly call. David to do next one, Simon to do November call on advocacy.

10) Chevron resolution

- a. Better to focus on climate issues. SB will look for another filer of the separate chair-CEO resolution.