

UUSMC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2018

Attendees: Judy Pappenhagen, David Bonner, Helen Springer, Anna Hull, Stephen Petersen, Greg Pelley, Melissa Bryson

1. Chalice lighting and spiritual reflection Greg

Excerpt from an essay by Clarence Skinner

Question posed: What are the tyrannies that challenge our freedoms?

2. Generosity Campaign (FS) Judy/Greg

Board members should be making their pledges online now using Realm. Be aware of how you are inputting your pledge amount and how you plan to fulfill it (monthly, annually, etc). Mailer consists of letter, pledge card, return envelope, and instructions for pledging on Realm. 35 people will have face to face conversations, two types: 1. Thanks, here is your pledge card 2. Newer members who need more information or need to get more connected. Remaining people will receive no face to face, but they will get follow up from a Generosity Ambassador. Levels will be announced at the Chili Kickoff this Saturday- Love, Community, Peace, Justice, Love.

3. Volunteer Recruitment (OE) Judy/Greg

Current intended structure, committees and team are appointed by the president and they chose their own teams. Discussion to be had will be around the board taking a more active role in filling our volunteer recruitment needs. Review sheet of the total needed (includes those currently involved). Priorities include RE/Adult RE, Membership, Sound and Tech, and Hospitality. Secondary Priority include Worship Team, Service Auction, Childcare, possibly Building and Grounds. Suggestion to split out some of the RE tasks between prep work volunteers and teacher volunteers to reduce burnout and encourage participation. What is needed from board to accomplish these goals? Lists of current friends and members handed out to all board for us to consider potential recruits for roles. Idea of a volunteer table/connection table as well as a sign. Action Items: 1. Board members will represent the table, and the day each board member is scheduled will be coordinated either the week after they count the offering money. 2. Helen will create and bring a sign.

4. Member/Friend Engagement Assessment (OE) Greg

Ram and Greg will sit down and talk about this line item to bring it back at next month's board meeting in greater detail. Judy shared that engagement is how we grow the church, and for us all to think about how we engagement works as we plan together.

5. Financial Review (FS) David/Greg

We also all received last month's financial statement in our email prior to the meeting. This will continue to be an agenda item as we monitor our budget.

6. By the Numbers Report (G)

Greg hands out some numbers tracking for us to review. Down on worship attendance, but still higher than 2016. Strong building attendance. September finances exceeded income, but this is not unusual. We do still have an open pledge commitment for 2018, however it is important to note that we usually collect about 95% of our pledges by the end of the year (with a few months grace period). Nothing has radically changed looking at these numbers in comparison to prior years. Judy will be sharing our financial state with the congregation in entirety, and hopes to make this agenda item an expected conversation point.

7. Membership and New UU (G)

Greg

First Sundays of the month. These are drop in meetings for new members to learn about our church and what it means to be a member here. Topics include "Introduction to Mill Creek" "Meaning of Membership" "Introduction to Unitarian Universalism." Question posed if someone other than Greg could hold these meetings if Greg is not available, at some point yes, and he will be outlining in the event that it can be outsourced to other members so that responsibility does not fall entirely on Greg. Suggestion that every board member should be reaching out to new members and doing their best to say hi and make connections. Greg will send a list of all new members in the last 12 months, to be updated at each new member ceremony. Suggestion to designate a certain marker on the nametags to denote board members and committee chairs. New nametags are color coordinated: Blue is member, Red is a friend, Black is visitors.

8. Ministry Assignment Areas (OE)

Greg

Hope is that each board member will take a ministry area and track the groups under that area, talking with the chairs of each committee to report back each board meeting about what's going on for that group. Groups have been assigned as follows: Worship and Arts- Stephen, Spiritual Growth and Development- Anna, Congregational Life- Melissa, Social Justice- Helen, Community Engagement- Ram, Administration- David. We will go with the ministry groups as written, and if we need to adjust then we will talk about moving a group or two into another ministry group.

9. 30th Birthday (G) (OE)

Greg

Decision to celebrate the Sunday after the actual anniversary date, first Sunday in March 2019. We will be holding an event, and we need to create a committee to plan the worship service and event both celebrating the 30th birthday. In addition, we should write a press release to announce this anniversary locally. We do still have founding members around so we should involve them for sure. We should also be using this occasion to announce and cultivate

an endowment fund initiative as a 30th birthday gift to ourselves. We will assess the feasibility of this ask after we see the results of the pledge campaign.

10. Board Task Teams

Judy

A. Cottage Meetings

B. Engagement

C. 30th Birthday

D. Brand, Growth, & Community Outreach - Stephen will help with this

11. On the radar- updates

Trees are being planted, yay!

12. Other business

Executive Session

12. Adjourn and Closing Reading

Greg

Respectfully Submitted, Melissa Bryson, Secretary