

UUSMC Board of Trustees Meeting

5/17/16

Present: Mary Pat Knauss, Judy Pappenhagen, Tracy Morgan, Larry Stomberg, Ivonne Antongiorgi, Rev. Greg Pelley.

Excused: Bruce Koepcke, MQ Riding

In-attendance: Adam Kegley for budget presentation only

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm.

- Rev. Pelley lighted the Chalice with a spiritual reading “God of Roots”, followed by responses from board members.
- Adam Kegley presented the 2016-17 budget.
  - a. Based on our current deficit and rate of spending, it is projected that we will have approximately \$15K on reserves by the end of FY 2016-17. The Finance Team continues to work on ways to retain as much of our reserves as possible.
  - b. There is an \$8,000 reduction in mortgage expenses due to our re-financing early this year.
  - c. The Board will continue its discussion on developing a policy on the use of undesignated gifts/funds. This will be part of an over-all view of stewardship and the unfoldment of the church’s DNA process.
  - d. The Finance Team has been looking at details of a planned giving education program for members of the congregation.

**The Board approved the proposed 2016-17 budget as presented by the Finance Team.**

**The Board gives special thanks to Adam Kegley and the entire Finance Team for their work and hopes for their continued support to the church next year.**

- The minutes of the April Board meeting were approved.
- 2016 Board Goals
  - a. RE – Revisions to the RE plan are on-going; goals will be completed in June.
  - b. Strategic Planning - The Committee had a good meeting on 5/14 where participants engaged in exercises on the three core congregational values of community and belonging; acceptance and openness; and spiritual growth. The Chalice Circles and the Choir have also participated in these exercises. The Committee plans to meet on Tuesday 5/24.
- The Treasurer’s Report was not presented due to Bruce Koepcke’s absence.

- Minister and Staff Reports
  - a. Based on Rev. Pelley's recommendation, prompted by recent anti-transgender laws, the Board explored options for the proper signage for the church's restrooms. **After discussion, the Board agreed to have the following signs on the restroom doors: "Identify as Women", and "Identify as Men".**
  - b. Charlie Brooks will be installing 2 computers in the office, free of charge.
  - c. UUSMC has been notified that it is likely to receive an estate gift. The Board discussed the need to have a policy for undesignated gifts that both appropriately honors the donor as well as uses the funds in the best long-term interest of UUSMC.
  - d. **The Board approved a motion to accept Rev. Pelley's proposal to have UUSMC enter into an 18-month experiment with Vanco Services for the use of electronic contributions.** Lauri Rickard, our bookkeeper, and Debby Damiani, office administrator, will oversee the reporting from Vanco to ensure it matches with our bookkeeping overflows. Cost involved is related to transaction fees which will be evaluated at the end of the 18-month period.
  - e. **The Board approved a motion to accept Rev. Pelley's proposal to give Debby Damiani a one-time \$500 bonus for her commendable work as office administrator.** Ms. Damiani maintains a highly-efficient, smooth work-environment and has demonstrated an outstanding discretion in the performance of her duties. The bonus represents a token of appreciation at this time when there are no increases in salary/wages.
  - f. The Delmarva Cluster of UU churches will hold a retreat on October 7-9 at Camp Tockwough, MD. Rev. Pelley is presenting a workshop on Saturday morning. Members of our congregation are encouraged to attend the retreat.
  - g. A reminder that the General Assembly is in Columbus, Ohio, June 22-26. UUSMC has been allotted 3 voting delegates. Members are encouraged to register and attend.
- Stewardship Campaign
  - a. The Stewardship Campaign is in progress. The congregation is invited to express their support of the church by making their pledge.
- Annual Meeting
  - a. The format and details of the Annual Meeting were discussed.

Rev. Pelley closed the meeting with a spiritual reading.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ivonne Antongiorgi, Secretary

UUSMC Board of Trustees

