

UUSMC Board of Trustees Meeting

November 17, 2015

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Rev. Pelley lighted the Chalice with a spiritual reading.

1. Reflective Reading Discussion – Board members shared their reflections of a poem by Ellen Bass provided by Rev. Pelley.
2. Approval of October Minutes – The revised minutes of the October Board meeting were approved.
3. 2016 Board Goals
 - a. RE – The RE Board Committee reported on its work over the past two months. Information is being gathered from the 8 focus group meetings which included parents, teachers, and interested members of the congregation. The committee will solidify the inquiry process and submit its findings to the Board in January. A clarified and strengthened vision for the RE program will be set by the Board with corresponding revisions to the overall program.
 - b. Governance and Policy – It was recommended to defer policy approval until next month.
 - c. Strategic Planning – There was a recommendation to include the work of the Leadership Council as part of the church's DNA process. The committee will wait for the Leadership Council meeting after the New Year and submit progress report in January.
4. Treasurer's Report
 - a. The bookkeeper reports that our finances continue to be steady and we are still on track for the budgeted shortfall plus the extra amount reported last month.
 - b. Adam Kegley was able to get the bank to remove the prepayment penalty as long as any new mortgage was still given to WSFS. The Finance Committee recommends the renewal of the mortgage loan for the church at a rate of 4.75% which is lower than the previous rate. The first monthly payment of the new loan will begin on March 1, 2016. The Board voted and approved the terms of the mortgage refinance as recommended by the Finance Committee.
5. Minister and Staff Reports
 - a. Worship attendance was reported through November 15; increase in RE attendance was noted.
 - b. Rev. Pelley is addressing the need for clear policies concerning the Memorial Garden and how it would operate in the future. He has been in communication with the MacArtor family in this regard.
 - c. The Grist is being examined to determine whether there is interest in continuing this publication in its present format or frequency. The Communications team will be involved in this project.
 - d. The DRE submitted a comprehensive report of the children's worship and activities for the month.

6. Other

- a. Larry Stomberg and his Serafin String Quartet are planning a fundraising concert for the church. The date has been set for January 31, 2016. They are working on the logistics of the time and ticket/contribution amount.
- b. Laura Bonner has offered to host a Christmas Tree adults-only party on December 19 from 7-9 pm.

7. Closing – Rev. Pelley closed the meeting with a spiritual reading.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ivonne Antongiorgi, Secretary

UUSMC Board of Trustees

11/30/15

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