

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees

September 25, 2018

Present: Michelle Naples (President), Mark Bishop (Vice President)-presiding, Jeremy Koenen (Secretary), Chris Aiken, Mark Bender, Omega Burckhardt, Maria Dorsey (Recording Secretary), Jane Peterson, Melinda Vernon

Also Present: Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom (Senior Minister)

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm

- I. Consent Agenda (Mark Bishop):
 - a. One spelling error corrected in the August minutes. Janet Nortrom last name corrected.
 - b. Moved to approve: Omega/Chris. Approved: Unanimously
- II. Congregational Sponsorship for Monica Kling (Michelle)
 - a. Short discussion.
 - b. Moved to approve: Maria/Jane. Approved by all members with Omega abstaining.
- III. Sources of Authority Introduction (Michelle)(Discuss)
 - a. The BOT needs to start thinking about who our sources of authority are and we will continue to discuss at upcoming Board meetings.
 - b. The process will be incorporated into our 2019 retreat.
 - c. BOT discussed the sources of authority examples from other UU churches and what we liked and did not like.
 - d. Mark Bishop will talk to consultant Laura Park and ask her about the process and her insights.
- IV. Staff Interpretation of Ends and Metrics (Rev. Jennifer)
 - a. Rev. Jennifer asked the BOT our thoughts as to whether staff interpretations of what the ends (1-4) mean, are reasonable?
 - b. After a lively discussion, the board agreed that interpretations of ends 1-3 are reasonable. As to end #4, the BOT discussed whether the word, "finance" and a financial giving aspect should be incorporated into a reasonable interpretation of end #4. Rev. Jennifer will go back to the staff to revisit the interpretation of end #4, with the ideas of resources, time and finances as a guide.
 - c. All agreed that the metrics is the hardest part. How will we know we are successful in achieving our ends? One quantitative measure is the survey. The metrics conversation will be an on-going conversation.
 - d. Staff Interpretations of ends 4-8 will be on the October BOT meeting agenda.
- V. Congregational Survey (Mark Bender, Michelle and Omega)(Discuss)
 - a. The draft survey was sent out in the Chanticleer with a link.
 - b. The survey can be accessed through the church website.
 - c. During coffee hour, the BOT will staff a table with a laptop, so that members and friends can complete the survey and be encouraged to take the survey.

- d. The Youth can also take the survey (YRUU and OWL).
- e. The survey closes on October 16.

VI. Renewal of Covenants (Michelle)

- a. Mark Bishop, Maria and Omega need to sign covenants because they missed the August BOT meeting where everyone else signed the covenants.
- b. All 3 members signed.

VII. Sr. Minister's Report (Inform)

- a. Access to the new parking lot on Sundays is going well. The Parking Task Force continues to investigate additional parking solutions.
- b. The IOT is inviting targeted members of the church to a brainstorming session regarding new revenue streams for our church. The meeting date is November 4.
- c. The Heritage Society Team is highlighting its presence in November and they are weaving in the UUA's matching legacy gift campaign into their publicity.
- d. The Pledge team needs at least 2 new members and Rev. Jennifer asked the BOT to help recruit new pledge members.
- e. On Oct 14, during the Teacher Chat, the Interim RE team will engage the RE volunteers in some work regarding RE history and transition. Six subsequent sessions will be offered to the congregation in order to reflect about our First Church RE history.
- f. Kinks are being worked out in the live stream system, so it is not ready yet.
- g. On September 18, 2018, the Anti-Racism Team hosted its first, "Conversations Across Difference" and 45 people attended.
- h. There will be 3 Saturday sessions, "Do Black Lives Matter?" Hosted by Parklawn Assembly of God and presented by Reggie Jackson Head Griot of America's Black Holocaust museum.

VIII. Clara Barton Award Recognition planning (Michelle) (Discuss)

- a. Melinda will organize the reception during a future coffee hour, to recognize member Janet Nortrom and confirm with Janet a date certain. Melinda will advise the BOT of the date. Melinda will also write a Chanticleer article about the award.

IX. Other Business

- a. Policy Governance: Mark Bishop, Maria and Jeremy report that all 3 UU churches we reached out to for advice regarding Policy Governance recommended hiring Unity Consulting/Laura Parks to advise us. Mark Bishop will ask Laura for a proposal.
- b. KGAT fund proposals are due October 15.

Motion to adjourn: Michelle/Omega: Meeting adjourned 8:02 pm