

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee
Minutes of the Meeting of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 18, 2018

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

Also Present: Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Fred Gutierrez, Lynne Jacoby

Called to order: 6:02 p.m.

Opening Words: Maria Dorsey

Consent Agenda:

- **November Minutes Moved to Approve** (Jeremy Koenen/Maria Dorsey)
 - **Approved** (unanimously)

Stewardship Council: Pledge Drive Team Plan Discussion (Fred Gutierrez and Lynne Jacoby)

- The Pledge Committee began meeting in mid-November: Fred Gutierrez, Dianna Dentino, Elizabeth Lentini, Sue Thaney, Lynne Jacoby.
- Immediate priorities have been defined: creating a Stewardship Sunday (an in-house event), an expanded Leadership event, targeting list of static givers and visiting stewards.
- The targeted list will be created by mid-January.
- A training will be set up for early February to create contact strategies, including education of the financial situation of the church as a whole, to better create tactics.
- The theme will be “We need one another.”
- An increase amount will be decided on, perhaps 5%.
- A discussion is taking place on whether it should be a one year or three year project.
- A bigger goal will need to be addressed in the future: how to evaluate the outcome.
- It was noted that generally speaking, the financial situation of the church should be an educational opportunity for every member.

Sources of Authority Discussion (con't) (Michelle Naples)

- Review of draft document that was created in last few meetings.
- It was noted that the document was clear and succinct.
- It was noted that descending order of importance of words may not be needed.
- Unanimously agreed that it was a good version for now, and that the Board may review or adopt a new one as policies in the future change.
- Michelle will share this version with Laura Park before January.

Congregational Survey - Plan for Sharing Results Discussion (Michelle Naples)

- Current plan is to share in Chanticleer in February.
- Board may also provide additional context of what the ends mean as we move towards operationalizing them.

Policy Picnic - Logistics and Progress on Policy Drafts Discussion (Mark Bishop)

- The event will take place the evening of January 11th and Saturday 12th, 2019, in Max Otto Hall.
- Trustees are to get their policies to Laura Park by December 25th so that Mark Bishop can finalize the agenda of the meeting.
- A sign up sheet for meals was passed.
- It was noted that Friday night's meeting will be for reviewing policies, and that Saturday will be dedicated to drafting.
- How are folks doing drafting their policies? Get them to Laura Park so Mark can finalize agenda by the end of the week
- Sign up sheet for meals
- Questions about drafting process?

DRE Search Committee Approval (Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom)

- It was clarified that the Search Team should collaborate and advise the Sr. Minister, however the Sr. Minister has final say on the hiring of the DRE.
- The Search Team is comprised of stakeholders: members with children, years of service, etc.
- The Search Team list was circulated.
- It was noted that the timeline and tasks associated with the DRE search are less formal than a ministerial search (which is moderated by the UUA).
- It was noted that the overall proposal looks good and seems reasonable.
- It was noted that a recent RE event was very interesting and meaningful.
- **Moved to approve** (Melinda Vernon, Mark Bishop)
Approved (unanimously)

Sr. Minister's Report

- Lincoln School parking lot will be available for Christmas Eve services.
- It was noted that we are not using all of the spaces at the Cass Street School. The Jewish Community Center is still OK to use.
- The Krug Acceptance Team sent out follow up questions. Responses will be sent by January 8, 2019. There may be a preliminary report by the January meeting, with a recommendation by the February or March BOT meeting.
- For long term wealth management, various groups are looking at the differences between Baby Boomers and Generation Xers and their giving potential.
- There will be another photo shoot for people to upload their pictures to the member portal during coffee hour.
- The Children's RE pageant will be this following Sunday.
- The numbers of attendees to worship are down as a whole.
- Services are now being livestreamed, but a major announcement has not yet taken place until some technical difficulties can be addressed with older cell phones.
 - It was asked if people livestreaming the services will count as attendees in the future. Rev. Nordstrom noted that there will be a special metric used for counting them.

- Rev. Nordstrom started a new stewardship group of five people to have one on one dinners to discuss with donors how they may be able to increase their giving.

Feast for Funds Planning Discussion (Michelle Naples)

- A sign up sheet was passed for who would be bringing what items to the BOT Feast for Funds event.

Motion for Adjournment: 7:36 p.m. (Jane Peterson, Mark Bishop)

- **Approved** (unanimously)

Next Meeting: January 22nd, 2019

Leader: Mark Bishop

Words/Snacks: Melinda Vernon

Minutes and Chanticleer: Mark Bender