

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee
Minutes of the Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting – Final
November 22, 2022

Present: Ben LeFort (President), Pat Geenen (Vice President), George Bledsoe (Secretary), Mike Hogan, Joe Riepenhoff, Sarah Richards, and Rollie Hanson, (Recording Secretary).

Absent: Tony Panciera and Amy Wilbourne

Also Present: Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom (Sr. Minister), Dave Becker

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm with members attending via videoconferencing (Zoom).

1. October BOT Meeting Minutes Review (George)

Motion: To approve the minutes of last meeting. Patricia moves and Sarah 2nd motion

Discussion: Clarity of Minute noted

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

2. Monitoring Ends 5 and 8:

Motion: Sufficient evidence has been presented to show progress and policy compliance toward ends. Mike moves and Joe 2nd motion.

Discussion: Board discusses and compares survey results for Church years 21-22 with 20-21 and notes overall progress but more emphasis on members taking care of themselves and lack of understanding the importance of End 5.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

3. Forge Our Future (FOF) Campaign Consultant Next Steps

Motion: To extend contract with Klote and continue association with and assistance from Glenn Wagner. Rollie moves and Mike 2nd motion.

Discussion: The value Glenn Wagner's expertise and assistance to further progress for the campaign versus the additional costs.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

4. Contribution to FOF Campaign from Current Unrestricted Reserves

Discussion: Dave Becker enters meeting and gives Board information about FUSM bequest policy/practice and how FOF funds relate to the Memorial Trust Funds. Historically most gifts or bequests were not restricted. Board notes Also discussed how much of unrestricted funds should be moved to FOF endowment funds, how to set up FOF endowment and what to do with Memorial Trust Funds, if anything. FUSM must keep a sufficient level of funds in Unrestricted Reserves. No further action taken.

5. Forge Our Future Endowment Policy Force

Discussion: Membership of task force including number of members and necessary skill set for Endowment Fund and steps to establish mission of Task Force. SPT team recommends 5 to 7 members with varied backgrounds. Ben, Sarah and Rollie agree to meet as a subcommittee to draft mission statement for task force and will also reach out to Tony for his participation.

6. Treasurer Transition

Discussion: Agreement to postpone discussion on this item due to time constraints.

7. Sr. Minister's Report (Rev. Jennifer)

FUSM offered internship to Steve Seick to begin in September 2023 and he accepted offer.

8. BOT Housekeeping

Share skill matrix with Nominating Committee. Possibility to give them more information besides the matrix, demographic information. Nom Com may look at affinity groups in First Church. Need new Zoom link for virtual meetings in December, January and February. Ben will get new Zoom link. Ben adjourns BOT meeting at 8:03 pm.