

Final Draft
First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Trustees

Tuesday, August 29th, 2023

Present: Pat Geenen (President), Sarah Richards (Vice President), George Bledsoe, Amy Wilbourne, Joe Riepenhoff (Secretary), Tony Panciera (recording secretary), Stacey Thieme, Stacy Koenen, Dana Brooks
Youth Representatives: Vera LeFort
Also Present: Jean Johnson, Jennifer Nordstrom, Noreen Gilbertson (Virtual)

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM.

1. Opening Sequence

2. Introduce Youth Representatives (Pat)

Vera and Leah Twente have joined the board as youth representatives.

3. Review/Consent Agenda (Pat)

Moved to approve the consent agenda without the staff report included: Joe. Seconded by Sarah.

Passed: Unanimously.

4. 2022-23 Fiscal Year Q4 Financial Report (Noreen)

Noreen shared an overview of the church's finances at the close of the 2022-2023 church year.

5. Policy Monitoring: (Pat)

Short discussion on process and clarifications, for the new members.

Motion: Based on the evidence in front of us, we determine compliance with policies 4.4 and 4.5: Moved by Tony. Seconded by Joe. **Passed:** Unanimously.

6. Forge Our Future (FOF) Task Force Report (George)

The Task Force has been hard at work, establishing parameters for the fund. Short discussion around governance, regarding trustee structure and intersections with the BOT and FUSM membership.

7. Allocation of Frank Evans Bequest (Jennifer)

Rev. Jennifer recommends putting unrestricted bequests into unrestricted funds to cover operational expenses over the next three years while pledges are coming into the endowment fund. Discussed benefits and risks of this path forward.

8. Anti-Racism Update (Sarah/George)

Brief update. Committee meetings will resume in September with one of the goals for the year is to select a congregation wide anti-racism training.

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

Rev. Jennifer and Dana provided more detail on the membership team reconfiguration and increasing engagement. Jennifer commented on how staff and congregants have noted how shared leadership and ministry has flourished since the start of her ministry here. Also, the pace of the Senior Minister in this configuration is unsustainable and the board and Jennifer will need to grapple with that this year.

10. Determining Compliance with Policy 4.7

The interpretation has not been updated, only the continuous operations plans for the leadership roles. We have a ministerial intern starting with us next week.

Motion to determine compliance with policy 4.7: Amy moved. Stacy Koenen seconded. **Passed:** unanimously.

11. BOT Housekeeping & Retreat Follow-up (Pat)

Pat appreciated the board involvement at the retreat. Stacy Koenen will liaise to Feast for Funds and help plan board engagement with our sources of authority. Dana will lead Stacey Thieme, Joe, and Tony on a refresh on the annual

survey. Stacy Koenen will liaise on the nominating committee. Pat brought up the position of Treasurer and the need to revisit our by-laws. George and Pat will discuss. Joe, Stacey Thieme, and Amy signed up to review the Ends.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Next Meeting: September 26, 2023