



Board Meeting – May 15, 2019

Our Mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.

Meeting Minutes

Board: Gail Bishop, President; Ann Hutton, Vice President; Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Greg Turosak, Secretary; Charyssa Cobb, Kim Reid, Dave Siljensberg, Joe Lobl and Angie Gupta, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio

Absent: Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Charyssa Cobb, Member at Large

1. **Call to Order and Chalice Lighting:** Gail called the meeting to order and the chalice was lit. Joe shared words from *Soul Matters* on this month's theme of Curiosity.
2. **Consent Agenda:** Motion by Kim, second by Angie to approve Consent Agenda, with Gail's additions for board retreat in July and forum for risk reduction, and April 2019 minutes. Approved.
3. **Financial update & 2019-2020 budget update.** Gail reported that we look in good shape and that we'll come in OK, probably with a bit of an excess. Regarding the proposed budget for 2019-2020, Gail said that nothing needed to be cut. We're currently about \$2,300 above the \$495,000 pledge goal, with perhaps another \$1,200 coming in. "Everything looks great," Gail said. Rev. Luke said that the building assistant position would likely be filled by Aug. 15. Gail said the 2019-2020 budget will be presented at the June 2 annual meeting as a balanced budget. Ann moved, Dave seconded approving the budget. Motion carried.
4. **Minister's report.** Rev. Luke recounted major items focused on in the past year, including: Walden Hill Wednesdays; major discussions on shared ministry; new publication *Grace Notes*; celebration of Jody Tharp's departure and hiring of new Office Administrator Erika Fetterman; gathering young families to envision programming for next year and discovering a deep desire to build community, social interaction and conversations around UU parenting; beginning of significant work to envision our building/property future, referred to as *Building Our Future*. Rev. Luke also talked about the energy in our church and the addition of new members. We're currently at 374 members compared with 361 at this time last year. Average attendance for the Wednesday dinners has been 79, and for the forums, 20-25. Pledge units have grown from 207 in 2015-2016 to 237 in 2019-2020.
5. **Old business.**
 - a. **Liaison reports.**
 - i. **Stewardship.** Joe remarked: "We did our job."
 - ii. **Sanctuary.** Ann reported some citywide training in past week.
 - iii. **Bylaws.** Ann reported that the bylaws changes are out there available for review; she has received one email questioning a point. Gail said the plan at the annual meeting will be to vote section by section.
 - iv. **Safe congregation.** Dave said that he and Julie Gilkinson should have the evacuation maps done by the end of the week.
 - v. **Endowment.** Joe reported that there will be a meeting in the coming week.

- vi. **Personnel.** Kim reported there is nothing new.
 - vii. **RE.** Angie reported that there's some anxiety if we have churchwide themes next year. Rev. Luke said he has been flexible about the themes and will discuss with Joyce Rood.
 - b. **BLUU funding.** Rev. Luke reported that the plates raised a little over \$1,500. Our commitment is \$3,500, and the budget surplus should cover the difference, or there are a variety of other options, Rev. Luke said.
 - c. **Building and Visioning Team forum.** Ann reported that no one got super-focused on the budget implications. She also said she had thought there would be a lot more people committed to staying in this building, but instead a lot of people are open to the suggestion of moving. She also said that the things that people like about this building stay the same. A number of people wanted to make sure that we visit the UU church in Duluth, Ann noted. Gail said that we'll also likely visit the UU churches in Iowa City and in Madison.
6. **New business.**
- a. **Voting items; policy/description/procedure items.**
 - i. **G-4, Solicitation on church premises.** Gail, Ann and Rev. Luke will re-work and bring back for consideration at the June board meeting.
 - ii. **G-8, Memorial Garden interment.** Kim moved, Angie seconded to approve with the addition of the following language: "The committee in consult with our minister establishes and implements processes and procedures for the Memorial Garden. The committee and our minister, with support of office staff, communicates with individuals concerning the details of planning an interment service or ceremony." Approved.
 - iii. **G-17, Sunday Emergency Medical Response.** Ann said the Worship Committee is meeting about this in the coming week, and that this will be ready for consideration at the June board meeting.
 - 7. **Annual meeting.** Reminder that this will occur on June 2.
 - 8. **Shared Ministry Team.** Gail and Rev. Luke mentioned names being considered. This team would meet with committees and others and explain shared ministry. Rev. Luke: "I see this team as having an agenda – not being neutral." This team would begin work in the fall.
 - 9. **Board retreat.** Gail said this would occur on July 17.

Board meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, Secretary