



## Board Meeting – May 20, 2020

*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; Kim Reid, Dave Siljeborg, Joe Lobl, Molly Dingel and Sarah Hayes, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio

**Absent:** None

1. **Call to Order and Chalice Lighting:** Gail called the meeting to order virtually via Zoom. Joe reflected on the theme of Thresholds, and lit the chalice.
2. **Consent Agenda:** Motion by Dave, second by Joe to approve Consent Agenda and minutes from April. Approved.
3. **Financial update.** Rob reported things are looking OK for this fiscal year. We'll likely have a surplus. At Finance meeting in June, there will be some discussion as to which area(s) to put the surplus. Looking for the Board to provide guidance in June. Gail said she's inclined to leave our funds as fluid as possible. Rob said that if the surplus were put in reserve, it would still be available as a float – it's still part of our cash assets. He said he would not favor locking up the funds in a CD. Rob said current year income is down some, but some expenses are as well. In response to a question about funding roof leaks, Rob said that comes out of major maintenance funds. Discussion turned to the planned pandemic budget. Rob said there are no salary increases for any staff, and that professional development funding will decrease. Gail pointed out there are no decreases in staff hours, and that the pledge drive came in pretty well. Rob said surplus through end of April is about \$49,800, but that will come down some by end of the church year as expenses are now exceeding income. Rev. Luke said that we're in very good shape financially compared with a lot of other UU congregations. On a motion from Kim, seconded by Rob, the board approved the pandemic budget and asked Rob to take the pandemic budget forward for discussion with Finance.
4. **Guest appearance.** Rev. Luke welcomed Kathy Burek of the UUA Board, who joined the Zoom meeting for a short time. Kathy said her primary reason to meet with us was to thank us for our generous support in pledging our fair share. She said the UUA is in fairly good shape for this year; no filling of positions but no layoffs. Ann expressed her appreciation for UUA's decision to meet in general assembly virtually this year.
5. **Minister's report.** Rev. Luke said we're realizing that the pandemic means we're being affected long-term, and that it will be some time before the risk is low enough that we can begin gathering again as a congregation. He said he's proud of a number of things, including the recent pledge campaign, which is allowing us to be financially vibrant. He noted that giving has been low lately for the plate; so, Rev. Luke recommends that beginning in June that twice-a-month, 100% of the plate go for some group in our community, and that two other Sundays, the plate be split between our Human Needs Fund and our general budget. Not sure about the

sometimes 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday yet. Rev. Luke said he's also proud we'll have a new co-director of music coming on board in July, Austin Ferguson; that services and forums have been highly attended, and that the Shared Ministry Team has kept moving ahead. He reported that UUA guidance is that congregations plan for online program life for the next year (into next spring) because of the pandemic. He said this isn't a move to become an online church, that instead it's a temporary measure. Regarding Rev. Luke's recommendations on the plate, it was agreed that the board's general consensus was to try the approach for six months. Rev. Luke also said that he hopes to go back to once-a-week forums in the fall.

**6. Old Business.**

- a. **Liaison reports.** None other than Greg suggesting we give consideration to allowing outdoor property days this season in a safe manner.
- b. **Shared Ministry Team update.** Rev. Luke reported that the Shared Ministry Team is continuing to move forward. Still need to meet with some groups – with Property scheduled for June 4. The team will meet again in the next couple of weeks, planning to provide the board with a framework and a roster of possible names for the team leaders to consider at the June board meeting.

**7. New Business.**

- a. **Annual meeting.** There is no annual meeting this year, and voting for board and Nominating Committee is virtual. Gail said that more votes still need to come in for annual elections to be official. We need at least 50 votes. Rev. Luke said that an Annual Review will come out.
- b. **Musician emerita.** Rev. Luke recommended that Connie Schuelka be conferred the title of Musician Emerita. Sarah moves, Rob seconds, motion approved.
- c. **Review of guidelines for reopening.** Rev. Luke said it's still advisable to discourage gathering on church grounds. He has talked with Eric Egger, Property chair, about Margaret Brandl's suggestion of doing some work in the Memorial Garden. Rev. Luke said he's comfortable that some of this work can go forward in a safe way, but that he or Eric or Erika Fetterman would need to be contacted for approval. He said he's sensitive to how other groups in the church will react to some activities being allowed. He also said that moving to Phase 2 of the church's pandemic guidelines makes sense.
- d. **Closing words and thank yous.** Outgoing board President Gail Bishop thanked each board member individually. Rev. Luke and board members shared their thank-yous with Gail as well.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, Secretary