



Board Meeting – Sept. 16, 2020

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

Meeting Minutes

Board: Ann Hutton, President; Kim Reid, Vice President; Greg Turosak, Secretary; Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Dave Siljeborg, Joe Lobl, Molly Dingel, Sarah Hayes and Kathy Schwartz, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio.

Absent: Sarah Hayes, Member at Large

1. **Call to Order, Chalice Lighting and Reflection.** Ann called the meeting to order via Zoom. Joe reflected on the theme of Renewal and lit the chalice.
2. **Agenda.** Ann asked that an additional item be added under New Business regarding possibly damage to plantings on the church property. Motion by Joe, second by Molly to approve the agenda as amended. Approved.
3. **Minutes from August 2020 meeting.** Motion by Kim, second by Dave to approve the minutes. Approved.
4. **Financial update.** Rob said that we're in the time of the budget year when we typically see expenses exceeding income, and that we'll probably continue to see that for a while, even with the upcoming annual auction. Other notes: (a) Endowment fund (which follows stocks) is up; (b) Probably will leave CDs as is for now because of strong liquid cash and stocks situation; (c) Will be liquidating some stock soon to get below 10% of annual budget. In response to Joe's question about the balance sheet being down about \$13,000 month over month, Rob said he isn't concerned because we've taken in 127% of expected income and spent only 89% of expected expenditures to this point in the budget year.
5. **Minister's Report.** Rev. Luke indicated there was strong participation in the past Sunday's "drive-thru church" ("... a phrase I never thought I'd use."). There were some 80 cars and more than 100 people. "This is still a church beyond its walls." Rev. Luke said that in coming weeks, small tailgate coffee hours are planned. He asked that we all hold each other with compassion in the coming weeks before the election. And he noted that the Building Our Future Team is started to re-engage in the coming weeks.
6. **Old business.**
 - a. **Shared Ministry team.**
 - i. **Follow-up after 9/2 orientation.** Kim and Greg said the orientation sessions went well, and the break-out groups were great.
 - ii. **Shared Ministry.** Rev. Luke said the staff lead for each team will be in contact with team members in the next week or so to set up initial meetings. Ann said that over time she'll try to attend various team meetings, to show support from her as board president and from the board.
 - iii. **Financial Stewardship.** Rob reported that subgroups of Financial Stewardship are addressing issues: (a) Still trying to figure out how to pull off an online auction; (b) How to handle the checks and balances with the Shared Ministry

model – reviewing the monthly finances. He said the team needs to make sure that it's paying attention each month and needs to figure out the best way to do that.

- iv. **Practical implementation** – Ann remarked that Shared Ministry is a phased-in effort and that we'll eventually need to bring our documentation in line with our practices; there may be policies that the board needs to review over the course of the year. She said each team is empowered to move at its own pace knowing what it needs to accomplish. Kathleen pointed out that policies can be altered, but that bylaw changes would eventually need to go to the congregation.
- b. **Re-gathering guidelines and activities.** Rev. Luke said there are revisions to Phase 3 for the fall, but no major changes. Most activities will remain online primarily, with a few small group gatherings.
- c. **Property: Parking lot.** Rev. Luke said the latest he knew was that Erika had reached out to the contractor; they were ready to move forward and trying to get us on their fall calendar. He said he would know more in the coming week.
- d. **UU Common Read.** Ann talked about three books being chosen for common reading among interested congregants. All books will deal with racial issues. The first read will be "An Indigenous People's History of the United States," by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. Ann will touch base with Amy Nelson to ensure that information about these reads is shared with the congregation.

7. New business.

- a. **Limited damage to landscaping.** Ann presented for the board's information a property issue. She received an email earlier in the day from a Walden Lane resident whose property abuts our property. A contractor in his employ strayed into church property, pressing down some vegetation. He apologized for this. Ann has asked Darin and Erika to take a look. Rob said that he saw plywood laid down, so he suspects there was no rutting, just some smashed vegetation. Rev. Luke said he didn't see any major damage.

Meeting adjourned. Next Board meeting will be Oct. 21, 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, secretary