

Minutes
UUFM Board Meeting
July 18, 2018 6-8:37 p.m.

Attendance:

Tony Filipovitch, President
John Knox, Treasurer
Diane Dobitz, Member at Large
Tricia Nienow, Member at Large
Andy Roberts, Member at Large
Faye Mattison: Secretary

Not present:

Ken Davey, Vice President
Nancy Cramblit, Past President

Check-In

Chalice Lighting

Review Agenda

Consent Agenda: Attendance, June Board Minutes, Building Use Request for Alcohol at Rehearsal Dinner, Building & Grounds request for Rental AC expense. Lowest bid to replace rental AC and furnace was from Schwickert's for \$6,243, not including likely rebates to be discussed with renters. Funds will come from the reserve. **Motion:** Andy Roberts, Second: Diane Dobitz, approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Written report submitted.
- John noted a few things about the report for clarification:
 - We are on target to end the year with \$225,000 in reserve, and we are projected to exhaust those reserves in a little over 4 years if nothing changes. We finished the year with 95% of our pledges met. However, our history has been that 97-99% of our pledges are met. The downward trend is slight but troubling, especially since we had already adjusted our initial pledge estimate down from \$120,000 to \$115,000. John sent out email reminders to a few people regarding pledges, and some responded; more payments may come in by August 1.
 - In June \$1500 was approved for office furniture for Rita's office; approximately \$1600 has been spent so far. To keep the audit trail clean, John proposed that the full amount be taken from the Transition Fund; the Board concurred.
 - **Motion to approve:** John Knox, Second: Diane Dobitz, approved.

Updates:

- **Email motion:** "To allow the Sudanese Anuak community to use the social hall at no expense for the purpose of a baby shower on July 14, 2018, from 2-9 p.m." **Motion:** Diane Dobitz, Second: Tricia Nienow, approved via email vote. They contributed \$100. Tony F. will write a thank-you to Ruth Aganya, and Diane

- Dobitz will make sure she receives it.
- President's report on UUA General Assembly, June 20-24, 2018:
 - Attendees spent an hour discussing the use of "they" instead of "he/she" to honor gender preferences.
 - Certified RE directors are automatically considered delegates. We currently have six delegates; next year we will have seven (Minister is automatic delegate).
 - Attendees voted to re-establish a permanent seat for a youth representative.
 - Tony suggested finding a way to send board members who haven't attended a UUA General Assembly. People can register as delegates online, and they can vote online. We could send several online delegates with much less cost than in-person attendance. In-person cost will be @\$1200 per person next year. If a delegate goes alone, it's good to connect with others from MN ahead of time. Tony has more information if people are interested.
 - Bhanti Santhi requested the use of our Fellowship Hall and kitchen area for a fundraiser for Triple Gem on September 22, 2018. Approximately 70 people will be in attendance. They will use our kitchen to serve and keep food warm; the food will be prepared elsewhere. Linda Ganske will have him complete a rental form.
 - Caden Sjogren requested the use of church space for meetings of the MN Trans Alliance on Saturdays, every other week, from 6-8 p.m., beginning September 21, 2018. We may ask them to pass a basket and contribute whatever comes in so they can be considered financially independent of the UUFM, with no other obligations to the church. We may also set a minimal amount per meeting. They understand that we may occasionally require the space for a church event. The group will come on September 21, and if they decide to continue meeting here, we will have them sign a rental form with contribution details. **Motion:** Andy Roberts, Second, Tricia Nienow, approved.
 - Reminder of Board Conflict of Interest policy (in Dropbox), and annual disclosure form, to be signed by Board members each year. Forms were on hand at the meeting for those who had not previously signed one to complete.

Discussion Items:

- Board Reference Manual Materials file in Dropbox—what to have available in hardcopy, what to post online.
 - We'll keep one dated paper copy in the office, and we'll post the entire manual online in Dropbox under Confidential Board Materials.
- Planning for Board Retreat, Saturday, August 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
 - Karen Gustafson will lead our discussion of what we want to accomplish during the coming year and how we interface with our new minister. We will also set our calendar of events for the year.
 - Because we are welcoming Rev. Rita Capezzi in August, we will have a Startup Seminar this fall with UUFM leadership, with some portions of the seminar available to congregational members. The seminar will be led by Phil Lund.
 - Installation of Rev. Rita will take place sometime in the future.
- Continuing Discussion on Proposal for Committee on Shared Ministry (COM file in Dropbox).

- The Committee on Shared Ministry (CSM) would have oversight of committees and the minister, including encouragement and assessment of progress toward goals set by the committees.
- CSM members would be elected by the congregation following recommendations of the Nominating Committee. CSM members may be members of a church committee but may not serve as a committee chair.
- As we learn more about how the CSM works in relationship with the board, the role of the board regarding personnel issues may change. This could result in a need to update the by-laws.
- Rev. Rita will come August 1; her first date to preach is August 26. We have speakers scheduled for August 12 and August 19. We will ask if she'd like to preach on August 5.
 - Email response from Rita: With the move, preaching on August 5 will not be possible, but she offered to be the worship leader on August 12 and August 19, if this is okay with the Worship Committee.

Adjournment at 8:05 p.m.