

Minutes
UUFM Board Meeting
March 5, 2020 6-7:43 p.m.

Present:

Tony Filipovitch, President
Penny Herickhoff, Vice President (attended via Zoom)
Tom Little, Member at Large
Andy Roberts, Member at Large
Tricia Nienow, Member at Large
John Knox, Treasurer
Faye Mattison, Secretary
Rev. Rita Capezzi, Minister

Not Present:

Nancy Cramblit, Past President

Greeting and Check-In

Chalice Lighting and Board Covenant: We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.

Review Agenda for Adds/Revisions: Approved.

Visitor's Forum: Buildings and Grounds Committee Members--Dick Nienow, Dennis Siemer;
Personnel Committee Member--Sarah Sifers

Consent Agenda: Attendance, February Board Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Committee Reports.
Approved.

Ministry Report:

- **UU the Vote**
 - ▷ UU the Vote offers resources for types of action a church might take. Rita will contact UUA for more information. A member has offered a gift for us to use this resource.
- **Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) Vacancy**
 - ▷ Nancy Cramblit has offered to join the committee in July when she goes off the Board. **Motion to approve Nancy Cramblit as a member of COSM in July:** Tony Filipovitch; Second, Penny Herickhoff; approved.
- **Progress on Forming Teams**
 - ▷ Rita is beginning to see people step forward to help on the Welcoming and Green Sanctuary Teams.
 - ▷ Sunday Suppers may have to end, at least for a period of time, if no one steps forward. Tony Filipovitch and the Board will send Linda Ganske, Becky Rossow and Anika Rossow Strasser a thank-you letter and card for all their work in keeping the suppers going. Tom Little is willing to take them out for supper.
 - ▷ Currently five people are involved in the Small Group Ministry guided process to learn how to lead groups. Rita hopes this will spin off later into other groups.
- **Coronavirus**
 - ▷ In the event we have to close the church due to the coronavirus, Macey has ideas on how to keep activities and contacts going with the children.

- ▷ Linda Ganske is creating a YouTube channel for us in case this is needed.
- ▷ The Minister's Emergency Fund is limited, but we could use some of this for someone who is unable to work and has no income, for example, a food service worker.
- ▷ Hand sanitizers will be made available in key areas of the church.
- **Use of Children's Faith Development (CFD) Budget**
 - ▷ Chalice Camp/Peace Camp can provide funds for materials, and they can offer stipends for youth to be counselors.
 - ▷ Funds in the the CFD budget designated for summer camp will be used to provide scholarships to Camp Unistar and to defray housing costs for OWL trainees.

Joint Meeting with Buildings and Grounds Committee (B&G):

- Many projects have been completed, including the installation of solar panels. Company monitoring software shows that the panels are generating power.
- Boiler replacement or repair costs were researched and found to be around \$40,000, which is less than expected.
- B&G has begun the process of researching projection, hearing and possible streaming service to homebound people.
 - ▷ Penny has found data showing that streaming leads to membership growth.
 - ▷ The new Technology Committee met for the first time on February 25.
 - ▷ Dennis Siemer is checking into trying a better projector and TV in the sanctuary.
 - ▷ Dick Nienow will check with his previous church in Mapleton regarding streaming equipment. He'll look into the possibility of a Chalice Lighter grant. This type of equipment would require more trained people to be available on Sunday mornings. This is not a current priority.
 - ▷ We could check with the Church of the Larger Fellowship to determine the need for viewing in southern Minnesota and Sioux Falls, South Dakota.
 - ▷ We may put more money into B&G for technology improvements. Tony asked the Technology Committee to provide a list of projects and related costs.
- B&G will check into getting smaller shrubs/plants which might be a better fit for our church.

Joint Meeting with Personnel Committee:

- Rita and Linda Ganske are revising the Office Administrator's job description duties into sections. The Office Administrator may focus more on communication. In addition to a Treasurer, we may use a bookkeeping service.
- We are hiring more Child Care Workers, and we have a list of the forms and other items needed for the files.
- **Motion to adopt the changes and amendments to the Employee Handbook:** John Knox; Second, Penny Herickhoff; approved.

Updates:

- **The Nominating Committee** will consist of Nancy Cramblit, Past President; Penny Herickhoff, Board member; and a congregational member. Tony has not heard back from the member he contacted, so he will ask another person to serve. The committee needs to be impaneled by April. A slate of candidates will be presented to the congregation at the May Annual Meeting.
- **Stewardship**
 - ▷ Progress to Date--Nineteen pledges have been received from the Committees, Teams and Board; nine to ten pledges have not been turned in. The total is \$77,865, which is about half way to where we want to be overall. This is 10.1% above what was pledged by this group last year. John projects we will have \$90,000 when all

pledges from this group have been turned in.

- ▷ A cover letter and brochure are ready to go to members, CFD parents and friends (separate letter). The letters, brochures and EFT forms will be sent out this weekend. EFT forms can also be passed out this coming Sunday.
- ▷ The week of March 22, we will call those who haven't pledged, and people will be asked to bring their pledge forms on Sunday, March 29, for the celebration.
- ▷ At the April Board meeting, John will have a list of those who still haven't pledged. We will divide up the names and give people a followup call.
- ▷ March 29 Celebration Plans--Nancy has priced balloons, cake and other items for the celebration. We have \$426 available. Some will go to Tom Little for printing; the rest will be for the celebration.

Payment of Childcare Workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

- **Email motion that we continue to pay our childcare workers who are already scheduled to provide services, even though those meetings will not be held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Should the closure extend beyond the times currently scheduled through March, the Board will be asked to consider further action at that time.** John Knox; Second, Andy Roberts; unanimously approved.

Motion to Adjourn at 7:43 p.m.: Andy Roberts; Second, Tricia Nienow; approved.

April Board Meeting:

- Our next Board meeting will be on **Thursday, April 2, at 6 p.m.**