

Unitarian Universalist Society Board of Trustees MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – December 13, 2018

Board meeting minutes are made available on the website or can be requested from the UUS administrator.

Present: Jane DeWitt (President), Jim Laughlin (Past-President), Amy Fretz (Vice-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Peg Voelker (Secretary), Sara Feldmann (Trustee), Michael Honey-Arcement (Trustee), Colleen Higgins (Trustee), and Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex officio Interim Minister). **Absent:** Paul Pomrehn (Trustee). **Guests:** None.

Board President DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. Laughlin provided opening words.

Consent Agenda & Announcements: Consent and other items are uploaded to Dropbox for review prior to the meeting.

Consent Agenda items: Board Agenda; December Executive Committee Minutes; November Board Meeting Highlights & Minutes; Minister's Monthly Report; Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements; Email Vote – Approval Parking Rental Agreement; Email Vote – Approval Endowment Advisor; and Email Vote – Approval Lopez Weaving Sale.

Other items: Board's Interim Ministry Timeline (Dowgiert).

The Board received the Consent Agenda and approved the November Board highlights and minutes.

Governance and Ministry Organization, Planning, Timeline: The majority of this month's Board meeting was spent on this agenda item. Rev. Dowgiert conveyed that it is important that UUS have a clear and functional structure of governance and organization in place before the arrival of our next settled minister. She recommended that, given our current size, UUS shift to a policy-style governance system. Such a system allows the Board to focus on "governing" and delegates day-to-day authority to the minister and staff. Please see columns in the January Newsletter by Rev. Dowgiert and Board President DeWitt for more on this topic.

Other: Several other business items were reviewed, including the parking lot rental agreement, parking & neighborhood issues, and the comparison of in-house versus external accounting.

Closing: DeWitt provided closing words. Honey-Arcement reported as Process Observer. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. The next Board meeting is Thursday, January 10, 2019, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the UUS Conference Room.

Congregational Meeting Highlights - December 9, 2018

Following opening words by Rev. Diane Dowgiert and the chalice lighting, President Jane DeWitt called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. A quorum was established with 104 of the 301 voting members in attendance.

Interim Transition Team Report: Tom McMurray reported on the work of the Interim Transition Team (ITT). McMurray and Diane Martin serve as co-chairs, and the other team members are Jeanette Carter, Virginia Melroy, Gary Lawrenson, Peter Brokaw, and John Lanaghan. McMurray summarized that their purpose is to assist the Interim Minister by providing insight, organizational and facilitative talent, and willing hands as the ministry proceeds. They continue to meet with Rev. Dowgiert monthly and will also be talking with staff and congregants.

2019 Pledge Drive Report: Jeffery Ford, co-chair of the Stewardship Committee, reported that to date, 180 pledges had been turned in totaling \$415,000. On average, members increased their pledges from 2018 by 16%. The committee is confident that once the remaining pledge units are received, the 2019 proposed budget goal will be reached. Ford expressed gratitude for the congregation's generosity.

2019 Budget Presentation & Vote: Chris Rode, Treasurer, provided a budget summary document and presented an overview of the UUS 2019 budget (proposed \$609,392). Rode highlighted several aspects of the budget including: a commitment to meeting UUA fair share dues and compensation; mortgage status and timeline; building expenses; "fixed" versus "variable" expenses; and the agreement with UU Solar LLC for electricity. *The congregation unanimously approved the budget as presented.*

Proposed Changes to By-Laws & Vote: DeWitt explained that the proposed revision to the by-laws regarding the Committee on Congregational Life and Ministry (CCLAM) is related to UUA recommended interim ministry practices. The revision adds the phrase "except during periods of interim ministry" to Article V, Section A, and Article X, Section A. *The congregation approved the changes as proposed.*

Overview of Ministerial Search: Rev. Diane Dowgiert shared that she has developed a deep appreciation and affection for UUS. She described the five common goals addressed by congregations during interim ministry and then briefly outlined a timeline of activities culminating in UUS calling its next settled minister in April/May 2020.

After announcements, closing words, and extinguishing of the chalice, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

—Submitted by Peg Voelker, Secretary