**Unitarian Universalist Society
Board of Trustees
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – November 13, 2019**

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

**Present:**  Amy Fretz (President), Joe Rasmussen (Vice-President), Jane DeWitt (Past-President), Chris Rode (Treasurer), Allison Bettine (Secretary), John Raley (Finance Trustee), Michael Honey- Arcement (Trustee), Paul Pomrehn (Trustee), Colleen Higgins (Trustee), and Rev. Diane Dowgiert (Ex-officio)

**Absent:**  none

**Guests:** Jerry Wetlaufer (Ministerial Search Committee Member)

Board President Fretz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Higgins provided opening words.

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

*Consent Agenda items: July Board Meeting Minutes, August Board Meeting Minutes, September Board Meeting Minutes, October Board Meeting Minutes, November Executive Meeting Minutes, and Interim Minister’s Report.*

*Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Rode that the Board receive the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Honey-Arcement, seconded by Higgins that the Board approve the July Board Meeting Minutes, August Board Meeting Minutes, September Board Meeting Minutes, October Board Meeting Minutes, November Executive Meeting Minutes, and Interim Minister’s Report, pending noted changes. Motion carried.*

**Proposed Bylaws Changes**: A second reading of the proposed changes to the Bylaws occurred and subsequent discussion surrounded the membership process policy. Honey-Arcement requested the Board reconsider the 30-day rule in the membership section that grants voting rights to new members only after 30 days rather than upon their completion of the membership process. Rasmussen raised the issue of transferable membership while Raley brought to the Board options for dual-membership and questions about returning members. A final reading of the proposed Bylaw changes will take place at the December Board Meeting and a vote will occur.

**Library Policy Proposal**: The Library Policy Proposal received a second reading. *Fretz called for a motion to approve the Library Policy. Moved by Higgins, seconded by Rasmussen that the Board approve the Library Policy. Motion did not carry.* Jerry Wetlaufer requested to give comment as a guest and was allowed to convey his concern that the Library Policy Proposal was not more widely circulated before coming to a Board vote. *Moved by Rasmussen, seconded by Rode that the Board table the vote to approve the proposed Library Policy. Motioned carried.*

**Ministerial Search Committee Update**: Wetlaufer shared the UUA’s new recommendations for ministerial contracts. It is the expectation of the UUA that any departures from the recommended contract be brought to the attention of ministerial candidates with complete transparency. Further, Wetlaufer requested the approval of the Board that the Ministerial Search Committee communicate congregational efforts concerning growth pattern demographics research as well as the move toward routine evaluations.

**Personnel Policy Update**: A second reading of the personnel policy was facilitated by Rasmussen. Board set to approve by vote at the December Board Meeting.

**Gift Policy Amendment Update**: The Board completed a second reading of the proposed Gift Policy Amendment**.** *Fretz called for a motion to approve the Gift Policy Amendment, pending noted changes. Moved by Rode, seconded by Honey-Arcement that the Board approve the amended Gift Policy. Motion carried.*

**Congregational Budget Meeting Agenda**: The first draft of the Congregational Budget Meeting Agenda was reviewed without comment. To be developed further by Fretz.

**Rental Concerns**: Rev. Dowgiert reiterated a staff concern voiced in the Interim Minister’s Report regarding event rentals conflicting with congregational needs. Some members of the Board expressed interest in receiving more information regarding the issue, while others shared anecdotal experiences. Raley is set to meet with staff members to develop rental practices that align with congregational priorities with regard to income and congregational activities.

**Interim Ministry Appraisal**: Rev. Dowgiert’s second interim ministry appraisal questionnaire was reviewed. Comments regarding the congregation’s strengths and areas of growth were briefly discussed. Fretz and Bettine requested that Rev. Dowgiert expound upon the minister’s comments regarding leadership succession in the congregation and the development of a more cohesive social-justice vision. Members of the Board expressed gratitude for Rev. Dowgiert’s thoughtful leadership throughout the interim ministry.

**Mission and Vision Update**: Fretz and Mission and Vision Facilitator, Kirk Witzberger, have been in conversation regarding the planning of a post-service forum on Sunday, November 24th as a space for discussing the development and outcome of the Mission and Vision process.

**Closing**: Pomrehn read the closing words, Raley gave process observer comments, and Fretz adjourned the meeting at 8:45p.m.

Submitted by Allison Bettine, Secretary