

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

## Board of Trustees

### Minutes of November 16, 2016 Meeting

#### Attendance

Phil Turner (President), Richard Culler (President Elect), Sandy Chubon (Secretary), Bob Whitaker (Treasurer).  
Members at Large: Donald Griggs, Emilio Perez-Jorge, Cheryl Soehl, Tim VanDenBerg, Joan Watterson. Marc Drews & Patty Drews (Past Co-Presidents), Joe Long (Chair, Finance Committee).

#### Call to Order

Phil Turner called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Tim VanDenBerg lit the chalice and provided a reading. Trustees re-affirmed our Board Covenant.

#### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 19, 2016 meeting were approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker was delighted to report that income is up in almost every category while Capital Campaign payments continue to increase. At the end of the first 1/3 of our fiscal year we have a positive variance of \$15,186.81. In comparison, last year at this point we had a negative variance of \$6,071.

#### Staff Reports

Reports of the Minister and DRE were accepted.

#### Committee Reports

**Adult RE** Richard reported they are planning to show the movie about the Sharpes defying the Nazis. They are discussing holding spirituality classes and a Christian Support Group.

**Membership** Patty reported they are organizing a system to encourage members/friends to meet at a pre-selected restaurant after church each week in hope of enhancing interaction and friendships.

**UUCG Governance** Richard reported they had a productive meeting November 3. They continue to welcome ideas/suggestions from congregation members.

**Social Action** Cheryl reported that they will provide information about guns and domestic violence during and after the service on December 18.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### Website Policies

Donald Griggs presented the Website Privacy Policy and the "Terms and Conditions" document regarding use of our website. In the fourth paragraph of the Terms and Conditions document, we agreed to change the word "dissemble" to "disguise". **Bob Whitaker moved to adopt the Website Privacy Policy and the Terms and Conditions of Use of the Website document.** Emilio Perez-Jorge seconded. **The motion passed.** (Appendix A)

## **Coffee House**

There was some discussion about how to handle the Coffee House checking account. It was agreed that Bob Whitaker can close the account and give Steve Fisher a cashier's check for the balance of the account. They have concerts scheduled through February 18, 2017. Questions were raised about the ownership of the sound equipment they use. Donald will work with David Roof and the UUCC Technology Committee to conduct an inventory of any equipment that is not the property of UUCC. After completion of the inventory, someone from the UUCC will meet with Mike Allen to confirm the inventory with a date to claim and remove any equipment which belongs to the Coffee House.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Building Renovation**

Richard reported he hopes to convene the Committee for Building Renovation early in December. Phil and Rev. Jennie will be serving as ex officio members of the committee. Phil, Richard, and Quillin Davis met with Peck Drennan to discuss the potential timeline and his contract as the architect. Peck is to provide a draft architectural contract for the committee to review. Then they will bring a recommendation to the Board.

The Finance Committee has been asked to research options for "bridge financing", ways to finance the work in advance of receiving all the money that has been pledged. Joe Long identified three methods for obtaining financing: a line of credit from a bank, selling bonds to members, or a loan from the UUCC endowment. Bob will meet with BB&T personnel to get an estimate of the cost of borrowing money for the renovations.

### **Tree of Life Historical Marker**

Plans are underway to place a historical marker on our grounds to honor the history of the Tree of Life Congregation. There will be a ceremony with the installation and dedication of the marker on December 11, 2016 at 2:00 PM. Lis Turner has agreed to coordinate refreshments for a reception after the ceremony.

### **Ministerial Search Committee**

Phil was informed today that the Search Committee needs our approval of the contract they will use in negotiating with a settled minister. Their deadline to submit the document is November 23. Two changes were suggested by our UUA MSR after she reviewed the document.

- (1) In Section 3.5.1 Add: The Congregation expects the Minister would take no more than two consecutive weeks of annual leave without consulting with the Board of Trustees.
- (2) In Section 3.6 Delete "Southeastern District" and replace with "Southern Region".

Phil will conduct an electronic vote on these revisions after the Trustees have an opportunity to review the contract.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Minutes recorded by

Sandy Chubon, Secretary