

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of October 19, 2016 Meeting

Attendance

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

Call to Order

Phil Turner called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Joan provided a reading and Marc lit the chalice.

Welcome to New Board Member

Since our last meeting the Leadership Development Committee recommended to the Board that they select Emilio Perez-Jorge as a member at large. Board members voted electronically to accept this recommendation. Tonight they welcomed Emilio to the Board.

Ministerial Search Committee

Linda Brennison and David Crockett came to this meeting to discuss the salary and benefits to be offered to a prospective settled minister. The Negotiating Committee (Linda, David, and Bob Whitaker) met with two UU consultants; they have generally followed the UUA guidelines. The salary range will be \$62,000. This amount was recommended by the consultants; it is a little higher than average for our geographic area and that should make us more attractive. Additionally, we would pay 6% for UU retirement; health insurance (used numbers for a minister with a family); group disability and life insurance (both recommended by consultants); dental insurance (50% of family amount); professional expense allowance (10% of salary); and one-time moving expenses (up to \$8,000). After some discussion, **Joan moved that we accept the Negotiating Committee's salary/benefits recommendation for ministerial candidates.** Emilio seconded. **The motion passed.**

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the September 21, 2016 meeting were approved with two corrections.

Minister & Staff Reports

Reports from the minister and the administrator were accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker reported that we are still \$6,000 behind on pledge collections; at this point last year we were \$7,000 behind. We collected \$3,800 from fundraising; we had donations for memorials and tributes. Overall, we have a positive variance of \$4,100 at the end of the first quarter.

Committee Reports

Technology Services Committee Donald Griggs reported that Lis Turner has been doing wonderful work posting information to the new web page. Donald distributed two documents regarding the webpage: a privacy policy and "terms and conditions". We will discuss/vote on those at the November meeting.

Finance Committee The Capital Campaign is progressing nicely. We have 50 pledges totaling \$119,000+ and we have collected \$47,500 to date. New members Quillin and Judy Davis have made an offer to match any amount pledged or donated before November 30, up to a maximum of \$30,000.

CYRE Tim reminded us of the chili cook off this Sunday, a fundraiser for the Boston trip in two years. The OWL class for K, 1st, & 2nd grades was cancelled because of low enrollment.

Adult RE Richard reminded us that they are having a class on the sociology of religion.

UCC Governance Richard reported that the ad hoc committee will meet November 3. They are researching how other congregations are organized, they are reading a book on congregational governance and developing definitions of common terms. The committee received a recommendation from Marc and Patty Drews that the president's term as president should be two years rather than just one year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

UCC Coffee House

Tim VanDenBerg met with Steve Fisher and Steve accepted the terms Tim offered. Steve is not interested in forming a tax exempt entity. Apparently some upcoming shows have been cancelled. Some of the more successful shows will be presented later in the season and then the coffee house will cease to exist. There was some discussion about what to do with the extra phone line when they are no longer using it.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Bonuses

Bob Whitaker presented a handout listing the year-end bonuses to be paid to our staff in compliance with our Personnel Policy. Rev. Jennie requested that she not receive a bonus. The remaining bonuses will total \$350.

Bob moved that we approve bonuses for staff. Cheryl seconded. **The motion passed.**

Ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation

Phil presented a document describing the scope and duties of a committee for our building renovation (Appendix A). **Bob moved that we approve the ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation.** Donald seconded.

The motion passed.

Phil suggested the following individuals to serve as that committee: Richard Culler, Carolyn West, Pat Mohr, Richard McLeod, Quillin Davis. **Cheryl moved acceptance of these individuals to serve on the ad hoc Committee for Building Renovation.** Joan seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Naming Opportunity

Jody Thomas, son of Verona Thomas who was a long time member of the UCC has requested that the garden at the UCC be named for his mother. Her ashes are buried in the garden. There was discussion about how the naming would be indicated, whether we should have a plaque that could have other names added. Questions

were raised about whether there are other people buried there or elsewhere on the grounds. It was suggested that we contact Neal Jones and Patrick Price to see what they recall.

Expansion of UCC Thanksgiving

Some members of the congregation have requested that we invite people from the Harriet Hancock Center to participate in our Thanksgiving potluck dinner. Kevin Meredith and Michelle Andra are chairing the potluck and they have no objection to the larger crowd. Board members agreed to issuing that invitation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Minutes recorded by

Sandy Chubon, Secretary

APPENDIX A WILL BE FORTHCOMING.