

# Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

## Board of Trustees

### Minutes of August 16, 2017 Meeting

#### Attendance

Richard Culler (President), Tim VanDenBerg (President-Elect), Sandy Chubon (Secretary), Bob Whitaker (Treasurer). Members at Large: Linda Brennison, Rod Brown, Emilio Perez-Jorge, Cheryl Soehl. Phil Turner (Past President), Rev. Jeff Liebmann.

Absent: Mary Maclachlan, Joe Long.

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Richard Culler. Linda Brennison provided a reading. Trustees re-affirmed their Covenant.

#### Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the July 19 meeting were approved.

#### Staff Reports

Reports from the administrator and the DRE were accepted.

#### Treasurer's Report

We are ahead in revenue because some members began paying pledges for this fiscal year as soon as they made their pledges and before the fiscal year began. Also, the late collection of last year's pledges has been outstanding. We budgeted \$1,200 for that category and we have already received \$4,110. Thus we have a positive variance of \$16,672.89. That will decrease as the year passes.

#### Committee Reports

**Membership** The committee is questioning whether it is their responsibility to send letters to members who have not paid their pledges. They were assured that sending the letters is part of Membership Committee's role; it is clearly described in the Bylaws.

**CYRE** is requesting money for volunteer training. They would like money from some other committee.

**Adult RE** They are planning to do an educational program on planned giving. They have updated the holdings in the library.

**Building Renovations** Plans for the renovations are finally completed. The committee will be meeting tomorrow night and they hope to get the job out for bids soon.

**Social Action** There have been demonstrations at the SC State Capitol since the incident in Charlottesville. The committee is also planning for participation in the Pride March in October. USC is having a Faith Fair for students September 4.

**Endowment** John Logue is chairing the committee. There is an outstanding opportunity for investors through a project being conducted by the UUA and funded by the Shelter Rock UU Congregation.

**Leadership Development Committee** Linda Brennison reported they held an organizational meeting. Everyone on the committee is new except Regina.

**Worship** Emilio reported that we will be experiencing some changes in our services in the near future.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Music Coordinator Search Process** Advertising for the position began August 2. Seven people expressed an interest in being considered for the position. So far, three candidates have shared their resumes and/or qualifications. The Personnel Committee will continue to accept applications until August 17. Candidates will be interviewed between August 17 and 23. The Personnel Committee has invited several members who are involved in the music ministry to participate in the interviews: Rev. Jeff, Bill Moody, Janet Swigler, Morgan Maclachlan, and Richard McLeod.

**Start Up Weekend** This is a program provided by the staff from the UUA Regional office as a final step of the ministerial search process. It is now planned for February, 2018.

**Ad hoc Kitchen Committee** Trustees approved an ad hoc Kitchen Committee of six people to be chaired by Linda McLeod. They are charged to develop procedures for the use of the kitchen, a list of responsibilities for people using the kitchen, etc. The Board's intent is to make the Kitchen Committee a subcommittee of a UUCC standing committee in the future.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Chair of CYRE** Brandi Mimbs has agreed to serve as Chair of the CYRE Committee. Trustees voted to approve her appointment.

**Custodian Schedule/Fill-in** Bill Dolley plans to be away for three weeks in September and again for a block of time in January. Jeff Kruse has agreed to fill in for him in September. Trustees agreed it would be a good plan to have a "permanent" fill-in person for Bill. Richard will talk to Jeff to see if he is interested.

**Share the Plate Policy** This policy proposal came to the Board from the Social Action Committee, proposing to make Share the Plate a subcommittee of the SAC. It describes the processes and their rationale. Trustees voted to approve the policy at this, the first reading. Second reading and final approval should be at the September meeting.

**2016/17 Positive Variance** Bob Whitaker reported that we have a positive variance of \$11,900 from the 2016/17 fiscal year. He moved that we place that money in a Board Reserve Account and ask the Finance Committee to provide recommendations on its use. The motion was approved.

**UUCC Sponsorship of Navigator USA Chapter** Konni and Darrell Shier are eager to begin a chapter of Navigators USA at the UUCC. Navigators USA is an alternative integrated scouting group first established in the All Souls UU Church in Harlem in 2003. The groups are all-gender, secular, and non-discriminating. The organization is growing rapidly although there are no active chapters in South Carolina. There is a chapter at the UU in Augusta. Konni is aware of 15-20 families who are very interested in participating in a Navigators USA chapter at UUCC. Konni and Darrell and one other adult would be chapter leaders. The Board voted to sponsor a chapter of Navigators USA. The Board will request clarification regarding (1) What does "sponsorship" mean if

this is not a program group of the congregation? and (2) From where does CYRE propose to pay any costs that may be required by Navigators USA?

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes recorded by

Sandy Chubon, Secretary