

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of Sept. 19, 2018 Meeting (amended per board review as of 10/17/18)

Attendance

Tim VanDenBerg (President), Bob Whitaker (Treasurer), Bob Gillespie (Secretary), Linda Brennison (President-Elect), Jeanette Walton, Terrence Sullivan, Mary Maclachlan, Richard McLeod and Pat Mohr. Also present: Richard Culler (past president), Caroline Eastman (chair, finance committee).

Call to Order

Tim VanDenBerg called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read a prayer by the mother of actor Bradley Whitman.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from Aug. 15, 2018 meeting were approved without comment.

Committee Reports

Tim VanDenBerg led discussion on committee meetings. It was suggested committee reports be submitted by the 15th of each month instead of the first, along with further discussion of such meetings. Richard McLeod asked if committee reports currently go only to committee chairs. Tim VanDenBerg said that such reports could also be shared with the congregation.

Linda Brennison spoke on Committee Nights. Pot lucks for those were cancelled due to the low number of committees meeting those nights.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial and Bookkeeper Reports were submitted for review to the Board prior to the meeting. Bob Whitaker reported that collection of 2017 pledges exceeded projected numbers. Highlights of the report include total revenue of \$12,300 over budgeted figures.

Whitaker reported that the checking account for sanctuary construction stands \$10,000, including a \$17,000 "bridge loan" from Phil Turner, due in 2019. Whitaker said two pledges to the construction fund may not be collected due to departures from the congregation, but if so, the loan amount will be able to be repaid.

Richard McLeod asked if members who are paying pledges on a monthly basis might be asked to make lump-sum payments; Whitaker said that would not be necessary. There was further discussion about adding curtains for the windows in the sanctuary. Linda Brennison suggested considering a more proactive approach to finding rental income for use of the building.

Staff Reports

Linda Brennison said custodial work was covered during Bill Dolley's recent vacation. Brennison said there has been approval of the new Ministerial Discretionary Account policy.

Committee Reports

Pat Mohr asked for input on programs for Adult RE. Tim VanDenBerg suggested the possibility of "kindness videos," and Mohr suggested the church youth should be involved in video production. VanDenBerg asked for suggestions for a proposal for the CYRE to do so.

Jeanette Walton reported on planning for the Pride Parade, scheduled for Oct. 19. Suggestions were made about decorating the UUCU float with LED lights for the nighttime parade.

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The Executive Session lasted until 8:30 p.m.

BB&T Line of Credit Resolution

The board approved a renewal of the church's BB&T Line of Credit.

UUCU Congregational Covenant

Discussion took place about a new UUCU Congregational Covenant, co-authored by Pat Mohr, to replace the covenant (created in 2008) which is displayed on the wall of the sanctuary. This is not the covenant that is read aloud during Sunday services. The change was suggested per bylaws that say this should occur on occasion. The question was tabled until a future board meeting.

Building Renovation

Richard Culler reported that due to complications from Hurricane Florence, he was unable to provide any new information.

Building Rental Agreements

Again, due to the hurricane, information was unavailable for this meeting.

Door Code

No updates due to the hurricane.

Reorganization of Caring & Hospitality Committee

Bob Gillespie reported that Linda McLeod proposed the creation of the position of a Memorial Services Coordinator for deceased members and non-UUCU family members, and requested she be named to the position. An amended proposal was made to create a sub-committee to handle such tasks. Linda Brennison questioned if this is not already part of the C&H Committee's responsibilities. Tim VanDenBerg suggested such a subcommittee should work within existing committee structure. Discussion followed.

Pat Mohr made a motion to create an Interim Memorial Services Coordinator who, in the absence of a minister, would work in collaboration with the Worship and C&H committees to coordinate memorial services. The motion passed on voice vote. Richard Culler made a motion that Linda McLeod be named to fill this position. The motion passed on voice vote.

Scheduled discussions on Gender-Neutral Bathroom, Board Retreat and Board Member Schedule were tabled due to the lateness of the hour.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Minutes recorded by

Bob Gillespie, Secretary