

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of Oct. 17, 2018 Meeting

Attendance

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

Call to Order

Tim VanDenBerg called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. Bob Gillespie read a poem by Kentucky poet Maurice Manning.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from Sept. 18, 2018 meeting were approved with corrections.

Staff Reports

Linda Brennison discussed establishing a music room in Room 9 as requested by Anna Hamilton, who would like to use the room to house her music, files, etc. and obtain an extra filing cabinet as well as shelves from the minister's office. The move has been approved by both Building & Grounds and CYRE, which doesn't use the room.

Linda reported the volunteers meeting led by Ginny Verne is being rescheduled.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Whitaker said that repayment of the Construction Bridge Loan will require using funds from the UUCC savings account, and that the positive variance of \$23,000 in the budget is due to not having to pay a minister's salary. Whitaker said the current cash flow is inadequate to repay the bridge loan.

Whitaker proposed setting up classes with Ginny Verne and Bob to discuss and explain budget reports for congregation members who are unclear on those reports. Whitaker also agreed to submit monthly reports of pledges, to be published in the order of service and the Unigram, to provide a clearer picture of finances.

Executive Session

The Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. The session concluded at 8:05 p.m.

Committee Reports

Tim VanDenBerg requested all monthly committee reports be submitted by committee chairs to Andrea by the 15th of each month.

Caroline Eastman reported the Tech Committee has located door code software and is working on a process to issue new codes.

Richard Culler reported that the final construction “punch list” has been completed by Peck Drennan, and payment on the original contract was approved. Richard also reported that further negotiations with the contractor continue on possible payments above and beyond the contracted amount.

Richard Culler reported that the UUCC has six long-term rental agreements currently in good standing. Caroline Eastman volunteered to review the fee structure for such rental agreements going forward.

Culler reported the Building and Grounds Committee had not met to discuss the gender-neutral bathroom as of the Board meeting. The B&G meeting was scheduled for Oct. 23.

Richard McLeod discussed congregation reaction to services being conducted by worship leaders, and said he sensed a need for better communication and publicity. Board members discussed receiving a range of congregation reactions regarding lay ministry and worship leaders. The Board concluded that more input from the congregation is needed.

Tim VanDenBerg proposed a Congregational Conversation as well as a survey to determine congregational preferences for future types of lay ministry. It was proposed that lists of future speakers be publicized for the congregation on a monthly basis.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Minutes recorded by

Bob Gillespie, Secretary