

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of November 28, 2018 Meeting

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: Caroline Eastman (*Ex Officio* as Chair, Finance Committee), Richard Culler (Past-President).

Call to Order

Tim VanDenBerg called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. for the board's retreat and meal at M Vista. Tim read "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus, an ode to the principles behind the Statue of Liberty, as invocation.

Old Business

Linda Brennison reported on Leadership Development and asked for suggestions for candidates to consider for leadership roles.

Tim VanDenBerg reported that the Right Relations Committee would meet the following week to clarify its direction re the upcoming Congregational Conversation. He noted the committee "needs a reboot" to find its purpose re structure and in mediating conflict.

Terrance Sullivan reported on CYRE's work in obtaining drivers' clearances and said the CYRE was in good shape re background checks.

Mary Maclachlan raised the idea of a one-word change in the new Covenant. Tim VanDenBerg said information will be sent out to the congregation for approval.

Linda Brennison reported that discussion about CYRE's future would be part of the Jan. 6 Congregational Conversation, and that questions should be expected from members at that time.

Financial Report

Bob Whitaker reported on the status of the bridge loan provided by Phil and Lis Turner for construction in the church. Whitaker said that if all pledges are filled, there will be enough to repay the loan. He reported negotiations with the contractor continue, led by Richard Culler, Tim VanDenBerg, Peck Drennan and others.

New Business

Richard McLeod, per proposals to amend the new Covenant, asked how congregation members will receive information on that, whether via Order of Service, Unigram,

UUCS website or calls. Caroline Eastman suggested the Right Relations Committee should call members to see if they have questions. Tim VanDenBerg asked if an emergency group should be formed to help members in need, as was done when members were called prior to the recent hurricane.

Richard McLeod reported on plans for the Christmas Eve programs, to be coordinated with Regina Moody.

Terrance Sullivan, per a recent CYRE meeting, raised the issue of what to do in the event of an emergency, such as a shooter, and said a plan for various emergencies should be addressed. He suggested, per the earlier meeting, that contacts be made with local sheriff's officials and area synagogues regarding such plans. Linda Brennison raised the possibility of active-shooter training meetings. Tim VanDenBerg suggested the issue be passed on to Right Relations.

Caroline Eastman reported that plans are underway for a policy on building locks and codes. Richard McLeod asked about schedules for locking the church after gatherings.

Tim VanDenBerg proposed the question be tabled due to time constraints for the evening.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. and members proceeded to Escapology.

Minutes recorded by

Bob Gillespie, Secretary