

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of July 17, 2019 Meeting (revised per Linda Brennison corrections/additions)

Attendance

Linda Brennison (President), Richard McLeod (President-Elect), Bob Gillespie (Secretary), Jeanette Walton (Treasurer), Terrence Sullivan and Deb Matherly. Also: Tim VanDenBerg (*Ex Officio* as Past President), Caroline Eastman (*Ex Officio* as Chair, Finance Committee).

Call to Order

Linda Brennison called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Richard McLeod lighted the “virtual” chalice and provided a reading from the UU website. Attendees recited the Board Covenant.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of June’s meeting were approved.

Staff Liaison Reports

Tim VanDenBerg reported two candidates are being considered for the DRE position. Screenings via Zoom and interviews are scheduled this week and next. Deb Matherly reported the Green Committee was involved in a recent visit by the Sierra Club. Linda Brennison discussed the roles of Board liaisons and said further discussion would be a subject for the upcoming Board Retreat. Jeanette Walton noted that the upcoming Pride Parade and Mountain Retreat, both scheduled for October, are in conflict. Richard McLeod reported that some committee chairs have not been diligent about scheduling meetings, and Caroline Eastman added some committees are not writing reports from meetings.

Committee Reports

Tim VanDenBerg reported on Annual Reports, saying remaining committee reports need to be put into the proper format.

Treasurer’s Report

Linda Brennison said the year-end and July reports are postponed until the August Board meeting in order to allow Ginny Verne to complete the year-end numbers.

Administrator’s Report

Andrea Dudick reported via email that five new members joined the UUCC in June, bringing total membership to 180. Attendance totals for June’s five Sundays were 128, 123, 101, 119 and 120, respectively.

The Board by voice vote approved the Administrator's Report. Annual Reports are pending per Linda Brennison

Executive Session

The Board voted to go into executive session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss litigation issues. The session ended at 7:23 p.m.

Old Business

Linda Brennison reported that Joe Long will photograph Board member during the August Board meeting. That meeting was moved up a week to August 14 to avoid conflict with the August 24 Board Retreat, to take place at the home of Jessica Kross.

Caroline Eastman reported that adjustments were made during the June Board meeting to the final 2019-20 UUCS budget to reflect staff raises approved by the Board. Linda Brennison reported pledges for 2019-20 are at \$215,000, and sent emails to staff informing them of the raises and thanking them for their service. Eastman requested that any other budget adjustments questions be emailed temporarily to her at ceastman@sc.rr.com.

Tim VanDenBerg reported he had met with BB&T but was not able to obtain a \$41,000 line of credit for UUCS. He was to meet with Southern First Bank to explore getting a line of credit for UUCS, which would require fewer pledge units than BB&T's line of credit.

Executive Session No. 2

The Board re-entered Executive Session at 7:36 p.m. for discussions on financial questions. The session ended at 7:39 p.m.

Board members who had not already signed their Board Confidentiality Agreements did so, and the agreements were collected by Tim VanDenBerg.

The Board discussed member Don Cooper's request to transfer \$1,000 in the Partner Church account to that group's Restricted Account to facilitate ease of usage in 2019-20. The Board voted to approve that move at the June meeting.

New Business

The Board, on a motion by Tim VanDenBerg, voted to appoint Jessica Kross as the Board's member on the Leadership Development Committee (LDC). That committee's first meeting is scheduled for August 4.

The Board, on a motion by Tim VanDenBerg, voted to select Ginny Verne and Joan Watterson as UUCS's representatives to the Mountain Summit focus group, scheduled for September 6-8 at The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center. There is no cost to the congregation for this trip.

The Board, on a motion by Deb Matherly, voted to fund up to \$720 for four UUCC member participants attending the “Braving Space” Leadership Retreat program, co-sponsored by The Mountain and the Southern Region, to be held at The Mountain September 6-8. Funds will come from the restricted Board Account, and members selected by application to the Board will provide their own transportation. The Board will advertise for the four participants via the Unigram and announcements from the pulpit as soon as possible, given the proximity of the dates. Richard McLeod said the Board should establish criteria as to what participants would be expected to bring back to the UUCC from the program.

Board members signed up on a list running July 21-October 27 to ensure Sunday lock-ups of the UUCC building after services. Each Board member will be responsible for making sure the building is secured, either in person or per a responsible second party. Jeanette Walton will create an instructional sheet or video on securing the patio doors.

Linda Brennison said she hopes to provide ZOOM and New Emails training for Board members, to possibly take place at the August 14 Board meeting.

Deb Matherly proposed studying new fundraising functions, such as auctions and special nights, which she said she had witnessed at her former church. The proposal was tabled and discussion will be postponed until the September meeting, as Deb will be unable to attend the August meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Submitted by: Bob Gillespie, Secretary