

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of August 14, 2019 Meeting

Attendance

Linda Brennison (President), Richard McLeod (President-Elect), Bob Gillespie (Secretary), Jeanette Walton (Treasurer), Terrence Sullivan, John Logue, Jessica Kross and Pat Mohr. Also: Tim VanDenBerg (*Ex Officio* as Past President), Caroline Eastman (*Ex Officio* as Chair, Finance Committee) and Donald Griggs (Ex Officio as Chair, Technical Committee). Absent: Deb Matherly.

Call to Order

Linda Brennison called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Jeanette Walton lighted the “virtual” chalice and provided a reading. Attendees recited the Board Covenant.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of July’s meeting were approved with corrections.

Staff Liaison Reports and Administrator’s Report

The Board approved by voice vote the Staff Liaisons’ and Administrator’s reports.

Committee Reports

The Board approved by voice vote reports from Adult RE, Animal Ministry, Building & Grounds, Caring & Hospitality, CYRE, Endowment, Finance, Green Sanctuary, Kitchen, Leadership Development, Membership, Personnel, Social Action, Technology Services and Worship Committees.

Tim VanDenBerg reported Annual Committee Reports were incomplete at meeting time.

Treasurer’s Report

Jeanette Walton reported the July reports are not completed due to work on completion of 2018-19 year-end reports. She reported revenues of \$230,566 at YE 6/30/19, which were down 7 percent from July 2018. Walton noted payroll was well under budget in 2019 due to the temporary absence of both a minister and a DRE for several months, accounting for most of the positive variance at fiscal YE of \$37,600, versus a negative variance of \$10,300 in June 2018. A motion was approved by voice vote to move the \$27,300 difference into the Board Contingency Temporary Restricted Fund.

Old Business

Joe Long completed photography of Board members prior to the Board meeting.

Technology Committee chair Donald Griggs demonstrated the use of the ZOOM application for Board members to connect via teleconference when meeting remotely, and members reviewed proper use of their Board email addresses.

Jeanette Walton reported on patio door locking instructions for Board members assigned to secure the UUCC building each Sunday following services and meetings.

Details were discussed for the Aug. 24 Board Retreat at the home of Jessica Kross. Linda Brennison instructed Board members to bring suggestions for UUCC goals: three each for the coming year and for the next 3-5 years.

The Board approved by voice vote the applications of Jeanette Walton and Kathy Farnsworth-Le Bel to attend the Braving Space UCC Leadership Retreat at The Mountain in September, and approved payment of \$180 each for their attendance.

Tim VanDenBerg collected signed confidentiality agreements from Board members in attendance and reported he has collected agreements from all members.

VanDenBerg reported the Board is still awaiting word on final approval of a Line of Credit from both BB&T (\$41,000) and Southern First Bank (amount TBD).

Executive Session

The Board voted to go into executive session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss litigation issues. The session ended at 8:37 p.m.

New Business

Linda Brennison reported the Board approved via electronic vote the hiring of Scott Sargent as the new DRE and also his Letter of Agreement. Caroline Eastman commended the search committee for its work and its choice of Sargent. John Logue reported the LOA required the DRE to report incidents to the Right Relations ad hoc committee that no longer exists. The LOA will be returned to Personnel for correction.

The Board approved by voice vote a request for a new restricted account for the Flower Fund, to be used to sponsor flowers for the sanctuary for each Sunday service, honoring or recognizing persons or events of importance to UCC.

The Board approved by voice vote a proposal to amend the 2019-20 budget and use a positive variance of \$1,000 to fund a newly-named Board Expense account. The account will be used for miscellaneous Board expenses and also will balance the budget.

The Board approved payment of a \$100 fee to pay for 12 Webinar leadership training sessions sponsored by the UUA Southern Region. Linda Brennison and President-Elect Richard McLeod will attend the seminars via ZOOM from September through June 2020.

Jessica Kross volunteered as chalice lighter for the Sept. 18 Board meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Submitted by: Bob Gillespie, Secretary