

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia

Board of Trustees

Minutes of December 18, 2019 Meeting

Attendance

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

Call to Order

Linda Brennison called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Deb Matherly lighted the chalice and Pat Mohr provided a reading from a story by Franz Kafka about a missing doll's "adventures." Attendees recited the Board Covenant.

Consent Agenda

A motion by Linda Brennison to accept the month's consent agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote. The agenda included Administrator's Report, DRE, Committee Reports, October board meeting minutes, Liaison to Staff Report, Liaison to Committee Reports and October Financial Statements.

Additionally, a motion by Pat Mohr to welcome Rod Brown as President-Elect (replacing Richard McLeod) was approved unanimously.

Financial Statements & Treasurer's Report

Linda Brennison, filling in on the Treasurer's Report for the absent Jeanette Walton, reported a positive variance of nearly \$13,000 and said pledges are slightly behind schedule. Brennison also reported a gift of \$1,000 was made to the Kitchen Committee to offset Building and Grounds costs.

Pat Mohr reported that sufficient funds have been raised to purchase and install blinds for the sanctuary and that bids are still out on installation.

Old Business

Tim VanDenBerg continued a discussion, originally tabled at the October meeting, on proposed creation of Cross-Functional Team (CFT) Subcommittees for each standing committee as identified in the UUCB By-Laws. Questions were raised as to the need for CFTs as opposed to ad hoc committees or subcommittees.

VanDenBerg said CFTs are needed in order to comply with UUCB bylaws, and said CFTs can streamline functions of such committees. A motion by Jessica Kross was made to again table the discussion pending more discussion/explanation and study of CFTs.

Linda Brennison announced a Jan. 19 Congregational Conversation (12:30 p.m.) to discuss future growth and direction of UUCC and retention of members and visitors.

Brennison reported that a statement of support, previously approved by email vote, was emailed to UU Augusta following its recent church vandalism. The statement was posted to the UUCC Facebook page, including a photo of the graffiti, and resulted in more than 800 views.

Brennison also reported holiday bonuses, previously approved by email vote, were much appreciated by staff members.

New Business

Linda Brennison reported on a proposal to amend the Fundraiser Policy to enable fundraising for other entities besides the UUCC (i.e., The Mountain, etc.). The proposal by the absent Caroline Eastman was seconded and approved by acclamation.

Linda Brennison led discussion on the possibility of purchase (by UUCC or an interested member) of property at 2717 Heyward Street. Unigram policy prevents advertisements, but Brennison will mention the property in the December “Board Highlights.”

Deb Matherly’s proposal for creation of a Publicity Subcommittee under the Membership Committee was approved by voice vote, as was Linda Brennison’s proposal to authorize the subcommittee to work with Andrea Dudick to place UUCC ads in the Free Times newspaper for upcoming services.

Linda Brennison announced dates for a Pledge Campaign Event (March 8, 2020), a Budget Discussion (May 29, 2020) and the annual Congregational Meeting (May 31, 2020).

Rod Brown volunteered as chalice lighter for the Jan. 15 board meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Submitted by: Bob Gillespie, Secretary