

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia (reviewed and corrected)

Board of Trustees

Minutes of June 17, 2020 Meeting

Attendance

Linda Brennison (President), Rod Brown (President-Elect), Bob Gillespie (Secretary), Jeanette Walton (Treasurer), Terrence Sullivan, John Logue, Jessica Kross, Deb Matherly and Pat Mohr, all via Zoom. Also via Zoom: Caroline Eastman (*Ex Officio* as Chair, Finance Committee), Tim VanDenBerg (*Ex Officio* as Past President), Reverend Stephen Robinson, and incoming Board members Tiffany Rushton, Jonathan White and Beth Ann Rochelau.

Call to Order

Linda Brennison called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., welcomed the new Board members, then lit the chalice and read a chalice-lighting message from the Oberlin (Ohio) UU Fellowship. Rev. Robinson thanked the Board for its work during the COVID-19 pandemic, urging members to be “chalice keepers” and “keepers of the flame.”

Consent Agenda

The Board approved the agenda and also the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the Administrator’s Report, DRE, Committee Reports, May board meeting minutes and Liaison to Committee Reports (as submitted).

Financial Statements & Treasurer’s Report

Jeanette Walton reported the endowment account is at \$148,955, and the 2019/2020 budget which “is pretty much where it should be,” given reduced expenses due to shuttering of the facility. Linda Brennison said the Finance Committee will review online procedures for payment of UUCC bills.

Old Business

Facility Closing Proposal

The Board approved a statement saying it anticipates the UUCC facility will remain closed through the end of 2020, operating as a virtual Congregation for Sunday services, The Forum, social gatherings and adding virtual groups for all ages conducted via Zoom. Possible limited in-person gatherings will be explored if those can be held safely. In October, the Board will consider plans for reopening in January 2021, communicating its findings to the Congregation. The Board will also consider forming a “tech squad” to assist those who find ZOOM technology a barrier to attending UUCC services and classes. The Caring Committee will continue to virtually meet monthly to assist Congregation members who need special care and consideration from the Committee or Rev. Robinson.

Paycheck Protection Loan/E-giving/Update on Pledges

Jeanette Walton reported UUCC received the applied-for Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan totaling \$23,100 to be used for payroll, and no layoffs are anticipated. Bookkeeper Ginny Verne will track spending so that the loan, if used in accordance with regulations, will be forgiven by the Federal government.

Walton said as of June 15, pledges have been received from 109 of 123 pledging units, totaling \$199,072.87. Online donations received from 33 units from April-June totaled \$7,982.78. UUCC membership as of May 30 is 179. Members are urged to email their pledge amounts to the Administrator at uucc@uucolumbia.org.

Vaccination Proposal Update

Tim VanDenBerg reported no new information as of the Board meeting.

New Business

Delegates to UUA Virtual Convention

The Board voted to have Linda Brennison, Carolyn West, Keitha Whitaker and Karen Brown be delegates to the UUA General Assembly virtual convention at a cost of \$150 each. The Board approved adding \$100 from the Board Reserve Fund to \$500 from the Denominational Connections budget to cover costs.

UUA Annual Program Fund

The Board voted, with one “no” vote and one abstention, to increase UUCC’s contribution to the UUA Annual Program Fund pledge to \$1,200 from a budgeted \$100. The UUA had requested a contribution of \$16,283; the UUCC contributed \$14,000 in 2019-20.

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Agreements/New Board Installation

New Board members will be provided with Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest agreements by Linda Brennison, Board President, with those to be signed and returned by the July Board meeting. Installation of the new Board was scheduled for June 21 during Sunday services.

Executive Session

The Board voted to enter Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. New Board members and Rev. Robinson left the meeting prior to the session. The session ended at 8:14 p.m.

July Chalice Lighter

Jessica Kross volunteered to be the July chalice lighter.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by: Bob Gillespie, Secretary

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