

**Approved Board Minutes
First Unitarian Church, South Bend
January 8, 2020**

I. Organizational Items

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

1. Present: Rev. Chip, Ron Robinson, Elena Wake, Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Janet Bogar, Bert Dodds, Howard Berberick, Anne Mannix

2. Absent: Suzanne Waller

3. Guests: Peg Faulmann

B. Note that motions are underlined

C. **Items for consideration in the next month's agenda are double-starred.

II. Introduction

A. Chalice Lighting

B. Check-in

C. Covenant

D. Approval of December 11, 2019 Minutes — One correction was made. Bert Dodds is to bring a desert to the Auction Lasagna dinner, not Howard. Anne moved to accept the minutes with above correction and Janet seconded. Approved unanimously.

E. Set Agenda

II. Reports

A. Minister

1. Chip brought up the idea of engaging an intern for 2020/2021 and perhaps 2021/2022. He feels this would take some of his time for supervision but also free some time if the person was able to take some work off him. He doesn't know the person's specific skill set. The person could bring fresh eyes and enthusiasm. The person lives in central Illinois and would come here for long weekends.

Pay is major challenge. The person could be half time, 20 hours/week.

There are UU sources for money, the person could raise some funds, we could find some funds. Other issues would be driving distance, child care. The person has possibility of living with friends in the area.

Board consensus is to stay in the process, have the person come to meet us, get a sample sermon.

2. Perpetual Calendar — Questions about our legal obligations with Federal tax forms. The payroll service does W-2's and sends us copies. Finda does the 1099 form.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. There is no Treasurer's Report because of Elena's travels

2. Ron reported on income from various events at Christmas time. Events such as the Cookie Walk, Bazaar, Dessert Raffle and Ginger Bear sales netted \$3317.50. Proceeds included around \$900 from credit card transactions. See p. 9 of Board Agenda Packet for more details.

B. Emergency Planning Committee — Next meeting will be Thursday, January 16.

III. Old Business

A. Ad Hoc Lighting Committee

1. Ron reported that the Committee will be going to the Endowment Fund with a grant proposal for the financial cost of what is needed.

2. Goals for the Committee remain

a. Creating a welcoming atmosphere

b. Deterring vandalism

c. Maintaining safety at night

d. Being green friendly

3. Larry Dzaugis, Chair of Marketing, and the Committee will be looking at lighting needs for our sign.

B. Welcoming Congregation — Chip says we are making progress.

C. Amazon Payment Program — No progress yet but Suzanne will bring to Stewardship Committee.

D. Fixing Wall in Sanctuary — The Board wants to thank those who participated in getting the sanctuary wall fixed. Appreciation to Kathy Vetter, the Aesthetics Committee and all who helped in this endeavor. The area looks great.

E. Update on Emergency Planning Committee — Next meeting on Thursday, 1/16/20 at 4:00.

IV. New Business

A. Donation to Care Committee

1. A donation of \$300 was made to the Care Committee. Usually, targeted donations are discouraged because they may take away from the effort to fund the church in general.
2. Ron will check with Care Committee Chairs to see if there is anything specific that they want/need. He will inform Fern.

B. Approval of Membership List

1. Correction of one person who was listed as the wrong gender.
2. A motion was made by Janet and seconded by Bert to certify the church membership at 107.
3. [The day following the Board Meeting Peg found errors that added 3 people to the membership list. The Board was informed and a straw poll of Board members was done electronically. The Board agreed to revise the number of members in the motion above to 110.]

C. Moms Demand Action Dinner

1. Moms Demand Action group would like to use our building for a dinner on Sunday evening, February 9th from 5-7 for National Gun Violence Survivors Week. They expect about 50 people.
2. Chip will open and close the church and inform Kathy Platt and Kathy Vetter.
3. The Board asked that the group fill out a Building Use form which Peg will furnish them. Chip will talk to Peace and Justice Committee to see if they will sponsor the event, which would waive the Building Use fee.

V. Other Business

A. Board Lasagna Dinner: Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 6:00

1. Board members to be at church for set up at 5:00.
2. Bring assigned food items.
3. Clean up.

B. Board Retreat — Scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at Suzanne Waller's home.

C. Anne would like to invite a well-known person to speak. She would like to ask for an Endowment Fund grant. Several names were suggested.

D. Melanie wanted to know the status of restitution from our former employee.

1. Elena will check with Fern and Chuck to find out what the status is and report back at the next meeting.

VI. Adjournment was called at 8:30.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2020 at 7:00.

Submitted by
Melanie Smith-Guillaume, Secretary