

Board Minutes: Status: Approved
First Unitarian Church, South Bend
November 10, 2021

Present: Anne Mannix, Gail deSomer, Ruth Regan, Rev. Chip Roush, Ken Chambers, Kay Azar, Catherine Lundergan

Guest: Peg Faulmann

Absent: Becky Lindstrom

President Anne Mannix calls the meeting to order at 7:05

I. Introduction

- A. Chalice Lighting – Rev. Chip
- B. Check-in
- C. Covenant

D. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on October 12, 2021. Motion to move the minutes with revisions was made by Gail and Ken seconds. The motion passes.

- E. Set Agenda

II. Reports

A. Minister: Has been submitted and is in packet.
Perpetual Calendar

January report of members: Gail will connect with members who haven't been seen in a while before submitting numbers to the UUA.

B. Office Report

1. Regulating the Thermostat : Pat Davis is talking with Kathy Vetter about temperature in the building. Finda is also able to adjust the thermometer. Pat needs to be able to do this adjustment from home so building is warm enough for her to work when she comes in. There were no objections to giving Pat that responsibility.
2. Peg does CHIRP, and will be training Pat to do board packet and OOS.
3. UPS pickup people: Finda has set up a format for delivery vs. picking up at UPS.
4. Paid holidays: Peg being paid for certain holidays, she suggests we not pay for the holidays but that she and Pat will work an extra few hours another day if the holiday falls on their work day. Rev. Chip and staff will work this out between them.
5. Phones: Ken let the folks in to work on the phone. Main line will be in office and currently is working only for outgoing calls. Who will be responsible for the privacy calls for minister? All phone lines will eventually go through the IP system being set up.

C. President - Member Letters & Proposed Response. Need more pulpit hosts for the next few months. Gail volunteers to help with opening and closing for those who can't be in the building. She will mentor Ruth. Anne also volunteers to help with this.

There have been a number of complaints about Rev. Chip's sermons. Anne would like to propose adding members to COM and/or go to UUA to help the process to work on this issue. Anne has already discussed the issue with Lisa Presley of UUA and the Committee on Ministry.

Rev. Chip says expanding COM is a big deal and cannot easily be done. Lynn McDonald and Anne feel that bringing in the UUA would be the best approach. Could the UUA consultant help ease the process? Rev. Chip is open to discussing the issues folks have with the services/sermons directly but

no one has come to him to date in spite of Anne having letters from 10 members regarding their dissatisfaction with sermons.

Catherine moves to contact the UUA for help work with COM, board and others to help improve relations, Gail seconds. Ken hopes the consultant would help the congregants improve relations with Rev. Chip. Motion passes with 1 abstention. COM should be responsible for contacting the UUA

D. Cleaning and snow removal: We need a big clean-up day but will need to hire someone to do this or depend on volunteers. Cleaning does not need to be as rigorous since we're not making food and that creates the most mess.

E. Covid testing site: If this goes through, we will need even more cleaning. We would need a certificate of insurance from them. They would pay about \$200/month for cleaning. They would need to be able to get into the building. Giving them a code seems to be the more concerning. That would be the greatest risk. Ask for insurance for theft. Charge for snow removal and cleaning. Motion to Anne to negotiate with the testing site people made by Ken, and seconded by Catherine. Motion passes.

F. Treasurer: See attached report. We ran a slight deficit last month but still in the black YTD. Gail had a question about terminology, particularly use of the work "receipts" as a column heading and what that means. Catherine asked to find out exactly what it means.

G. Committee Reports

1. A study of the lighting was done in 2021 and need to be found and followed through with. Getting quotes would be the next step or find the request to the Endowment committee. Gail was able to get a copy of the report from Alan.
2. Social committee is planning a Dessert Auction using our Online Auction site.
3. RE: last outdoor get together was well received and the outcome is that they want more activities like that. They do want to continue RE when more are vaccinated.

III. Goals & Progress

- 1) Begin planning for multi-platform services.
- 2) Coordinate the development of a cohesive plan to improve services to children and families.
- 3) Communicate with church members and build connections.
- 4) Initiate and support a church-wide mission and vision planning process.

IV. Other Business

- A. Gravity Diagnostics proposal

V. Adjournment at 8:45 pm.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting: December 8, 2021