

UUSS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thursday, October 27, 2022, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom and in person

MINUTES



Present: Anara Guard, Denis Edgren, Hally Cahssai, Jed Shapiro, Sally Wilkins, Susan Davis-James, Victoria Owens
Reverend Lucy Bunch, Reverend Doctor Roger Jones
Guests: Mary Howard, Jon Peterson
Absent: Frances Myers, Marilyn Reynolds

The meeting was called to order at 6:35. Anara welcomed the board and guests. We had a quorum. Jed Shapiro provided the chalice lighting and centering. The September meeting minutes were approved with the correction of adding Susan Davis-James as having been present.

Board Business

- Mary Howard provided background on the UUSS Committee on Ministry, its history and function. UUSS currently does not have a process for evaluating the ministers and the board will need to decide on a model, who will provide the evaluation, and when. Resources to assist may be found on the UUA website and from regional staff.
- Sally Wilkins was recognized as the Board liaison for UUA/Denomination. She plans to meet with Meg and Karen Gunderson as well as to work closely with Jon Peterson who represents the Program Council at district meetings.
- Recap of Congregational Meeting. It was felt that the meeting went smoothly.
- **Board Goals--Leadership Development - Focus in October & November** We revisited the task force report that was given to the Board and to Program Council in July and discussed the Board's role as well as that of Nominating Committee. Ideas include: touch base with Annette re: Nominating committee; identify members who have leadership strengths and experience in their work life; hold a board open house several times a year to let people know what we do; frame leadership as an opportunity for more personal/spiritual growth. Some churches have a position (paid or unpaid) of Volunteer coordinator or Membership coordinator to help match people with opportunities, engage others, etc.
- **Before the November meeting**, please re-examine the report and other ideas to prioritize one or two steps that the Board can take within the next six months to further this goal. Program Council will also be asked to do this. We will discuss in November.

Victoria Owens provided the Treasurer's Report for August and September, sent separately. Denis moved and Hally seconded the motion to direct the Treasurer and Finance committee to reset the reserve ratio from 33% to 15-25% of annual budgeted expenses. Passed. We will likely have a surplus left after paying off the mortgage. The board needs to set funding priorities for this as well as for the 2022-23 budget, to be discussed in full at our December meeting.

Ministers' Reports - Rev. Dr. Roger Jones and Rev. Lucy Bunch. Victoria moved and Jed seconded a motion to approve the ministers' plan to take sabbatical during the 2023-24 church year. Sally moved and Denis seconded a motion to authorize UUSS to begin the search process for a full-time seminary intern to serve during that period. Both motions were passed unanimously. Discussions of how to fund the plan will be part of our December prioritizing.

Committee Substantive Issues

- a. Program Council: Susan Davis-James is now the liaison. There is an opening on the PC. No Thanksgiving dinner this year.
- b. Homeless Resource Task Force/Social Justice Coordinating Council: We discussed an email sent by Frances on liability insurance issues. Lucy and Anara will follow up with Frances.
- c. The board will donate a basket to the upcoming auction raffle. Victoria is leading this.

Next Meetings:

- a. Executive Board Meeting (via Zoom): November 7, at 5 pm
- b. Board Meeting (via Zoom & in person): Thursday, November 17, 6:30 pm.; Susan Davis-James to provide opening and closing

Recap decisions for October Monthly Board Update: Denis

Closing: Jed

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40.