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Unitarian Universalist Church of Muncie

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

The UUCM Board of Trustees Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by President Eleanor Trawick

In Attendance:

Board: Eleanor Trawick – President
Kirk Robey – President-Elect
Benjamin Strack – Past President
Steve Chalk – Vice President
Maggie Bartlett – Secretary
Joel Tishken- Minister
Lynn Hale – Incoming Vice President
Jane Duckworth – Acting Treasurer

Guests present: Ric Dwenger

Absent: None

Consent Agenda

Approval of the June 6, 2023

No Dissent

Motion Passed 6-0

Approval of the May 2, 2023 Minutes

No Dissent

Motion Passed 6-0

New Business

Minister's Report

Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken gave his report to the UUCM Board of Trustees. Rev. Tishken reported that he had certified delegates upcoming conferences. UUCM's delegates to MidAmerica are Kirk Robey and Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer. Delegates to the General Assembly are Brian Reed, Jessie Daniel, Mary Johnson Robey, and Kirk Robey.

Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken polled the BoT to ask if members would like to revisit any of the developmental goals. The history of how the goals were developed and consented to was discussed. Members shared their thoughts. Members thought that the goals were still good and relevant. Members also felt that congregational feedback would be beneficial.

Sights and Sounds

Ric Dwenger from the UUCM Sights and Sounds team spoke to the BoT regarding UUCM Sights and Sounds issues. Mr. Dwenger reported that the projector's output seems to be a bit faded on the screen. Mr. Dwenger reported that he has completed research on possible solutions and gave the BoT an overview, including different projection options and pricing. The BoT discussed the options presented. BoT members talked about the age of the current system, the changed conditions in the sanctuary (lighting), viewing angles, and sustainability with mind to the future. How we orient the sanctuary was also a consideration. Past President Ben Strack added his professional opinion. Members felt that an LED television would not be a good choice due to visibility when viewed off to the sides in the sanctuary. Changing where the projector is located seemed like a better option, as well as checking on newer projection technology. After discussion, Ric Dwenger plans to do a placement test and Mr. Strack will conduct research on our current equipment to see if the lens is swappable on the unit. Mr. Dwenger will send the model number to Mr. Strack. Mr. Strack will also research other technologies. Ms. Bartlett will contact John Bartlett with the possibility of pulling ethernet cable if needed in the future.

How to pay for new HVAC

President Eleanor Trawick introduced the next order of new business, options on how to pay for the new HVAC for UUCM. Eleanor Trawick reported that she and Kirk Robey held a presentation regarding funding for the new UUCM HVAC on May 28, 2023, following service and that she had published an article on the topic in the most recent Eblast. Ms. Trawick gave a brief synopsis of this information along with some updated financial details. President Trawick reported that some members have already stepped up and have made substantial pledges toward the cost of the HVAC. Members discussed the different HVAC options and questions regarding them. Members shared thoughts on funding, including getting federal, state and UUA grants. Next steps were planned. Eleanor Trawick will contact Bruce Craig to firm up the quoted estimates from the HVAC contractors. Jane Duckworth and Eleanor Trawick will contact Martin Hillary from the Indiana Trust Investment Company.

Letter to Bank

President Trawick moved on to the next order of new business, a letter from the BoT to Northwest Bank. President Trawick presented the letter to the BoT along with the purpose for the letter in providing options for funding and moving the project forward. The letter was signed by current BoT members.

Homecoming service

Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken spoke regarding the next order of new business, the Homecoming Service (formerly Ingathering). The date for the Homecoming Service will be held on September 10, 2023. The idea and purpose behind the service is to welcome anyone who has been connected to UUCM to be invited for a special service with food afterwards.

Harvest Feast and Christmas Service

Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken then moved on to the next order of new business, upcoming special holiday and special services such as Day of the Ancestors, the Harvest Feast, Santa Lucia and the Christmas Service. Day of the

Ancestors (formerly Day of the Dead) will be on Oct 29, 2023. This service will be a combination of lay-led and RE led. Jessie Daniel will help put this service together. The idea was presented by Rev. Tishken and the team to have a Harvest Lunch on November 19, 2023 as a part of the service. There would be a short service. Members discussed positive thoughts regarding the plan. The church will pay for the turkeys; congregants will bring side items dishes. Santa Lucia was proposed to be lay-led service on December 10, 2023. BoT members agreed. Rev. Tishken moved on to discussing this year's Christmas Eve service. Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year. It was proposed by Rev. Tishken that UUCM have a Christmas Eve service that evening and forgo service in the morning. Members discussed having a gathering with games in the morning and lunch if there was interest. Additionally, Rev. Tishken stated that in 2024 he plans to do a theme lead off every first Sunday.

Contract for Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer

President-Elect Kirk Robey then moved on to the next order of new business, Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer's updated contract. Mr. Robey had sent this contract via email earlier in the week for the BoT to review. Mr. Robey went over how the contract was developed with Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer.

A motion was made by Kirk Robey to accept Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer's contract as presented.

The motion was seconded by Maggie Bartlett

President Trawick asked if there was any discussion of the motion. There were some questions. Answers were given.

There was a call to a vote on the motion to accept Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer's contract as presented.

No Dissention

Motion Passed 6-0

Kirk Robey will amend the contract to add signature lines at the bottom for the president and for Rev. Dr. Julia Corbett-Hemeyer and forward this to President Trawick.

President Trawick will get these signed and deliver a copy to Christie Williams for filing.

Eleanor Trawick will print Rev. Dr. Joel Tishken's and Jessie Daniel's approved contracts, have them signed, and deliver a copy of the signed contracts to Christie Williams for filing.

Need for a brief addendum to Christie's and Jim's contracts

President Trawick moved on to the next order of new business, discussion of the need for a brief addendum to Christie Williams and Jim Helton's contracts to reflect their raises. Eleanor Trawick will make a one-page addendum with Ms. Williams' assistance to be attached to Christie Williams and Jim Helton's current contracts.

Next unit in the UUA Leadership Training "[Who's the Boss? Board as Employer](#)" (UUA)

There was group discussion on "[Who's the Boss? Board as Employer](#)" from the UUA website. There was a lot of valuable information and resources included in this module. Members of the Board shared their thoughts on the various aspects of this learning module.

Dates: for next Board meeting and for summer congregational meeting

The BoT discussed dates and times for the next Board meeting and for the summer congregational meeting.

Following discussion and examination of schedules, it was decided that the next Board meeting will be held on June 27, 2023, due to July 4th being the first Tuesday of the month.

The BoT next discussed the date and time for the Summer Congregational meeting. This special congregational meeting will be held to vote on HVAC options, to approve the funding, and to elect new BoT officers. After considering time frames and needed notices, the BoT set the summer congregational meeting to be held on July 16, 2023. Secretary Maggie Bartlett will submit a “save the date” notice regarding the upcoming congregational meeting and forward dates to Christie Williams.

Old Business

Report from Nominating Committee on treasurer, president-elect

Past President Ben Strack gave a report from the Nominating Committee regarding nominations for a treasurer and a president-elect. Jane Duckworth has been nominated to be Treasurer. Jane Duckworth reported that Ben Ewing will help with the computer work of the treasurer. Ben Ewing’s title will be that of assistant treasurer. Mr. Strack stated that he is waiting for final conformation on a candidate for president-elect. If this candidate declines, there is another possible candidate. Mr. Strack stated that the congregation’s Nominating Committee election must be on the congregational meeting agenda. Mr. Strack reported that Aryn Sweeny has agreed to a nomination to the Nominating Committee. Mr. Strack Stated that the new BoT will need to select a Nominating Committee member as well for a two-year term.

Committee on Ministries

President Eleanor Trawick moved on to the next order of old business, a previously tabled discussion regarding the Committee on Ministries. BoT members felt that this would be best tabled until the fall.

Opening and locking the church in June and July

June 11- Eleanor Trawick

June 25- Maggie Bartlett

June 18- Kirk Robey

July 2- Rev. Joel Tishken

CLOSING

Review tasks to be completed this month:

Eleanor Trawick will contact Bruce Craig to firm up the estimates from the HVAC contractors, Jane and ---

Eleanor Trawick will contact to Martin Hillary from the Indiana Trust Company.

Mr. Dwenger will send the model number to Mr. Strack.

Mr. Strack will also help with researching if the lens is swappable on the unit. Mr. Strack will also research other technologies.

Ms. Bartlett will contact John Bartlett with the possibility of pulling ethernet cable.

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Eleanor Trawick will make a one-page addendum with Ms. Williams’ assistance to be attached to Christie Williams and Jim Helton’s current contracts.

Maggie Bartlett will submit a “save the date” notice regarding the upcoming congregational meeting

Maggie Bartlett will send dates to Christie Williams regarding the upcoming BoT meeting and the Summer Congregational Meeting. The next Board meeting will be held on June 27, 2023; the summer congregational meeting will be held on July 16, 2023.

Eleanor Trawick will lead the next meeting.

Ben Strack will lead discussion on “ [Guarding the Institution: Balancing Stability and Vision](#)” (UUA) during the June 27th Meeting.

Next Meeting: Opening and Closing Words – Maggie Bartlett

Process Observer for June 27th meeting – Ben Strack

Feedback From Process Observer(s) None

Executive Session – NO

Meeting Adjourned – 9:07 PM

Next Regular Meeting – June 27, 2023 – 7:00 PM (In-Person with Virtual Option) *****

Respectfully submitted by:

BoT Secretary

Presiding Officer