

UUFVB Board of Trustees Minutes
April 16, 2020

Call to Order: at 4:30 PM by Board President Cate Wenzing. The meeting was held via Zoom. The chalice was lit, and Cate Wenzing gave the **Opening Words**, reminding us “we are all one.” Everyone present **Checked In**.

Members Present: Pres. Cate Wenzing, VP Kathy Cossa, Sec. Suzy Bromwell, Treas. Rebecca Hornbuckle, Coco Burt, Barbara Dunst, Ken Klein, Jonnie Mae Perry, Tom Tierney, Rev. Scott Alexander (ex officio). **Guest Present:** Woody Sutton.

Process Observer: Kathy Cossa

Consent Agenda: A **Motion** made by Jonnie and seconded by Kathy, to accept the Consent Agenda as presented was approved. Items on the Consent Agenda were: The minutes of the Board’s March 19th meeting, the minutes of the Board’s April 7th electronic session and the appointment of Thomas Hamilton to the Endowment Fund Committee.

Treasurer’s Report:

1. Rebecca reported that the income and expense report, balance sheet and cash flow report are in process. Rebecca and Elizabeth Borne, UUFVB accountant, are preparing for the Finance Town Hall rescheduled for April 19th.
2. Rebecca heard from Marine Bank about UUFVB’s application for the Paycheck Protection Program underwritten by the Small Business Administration. After a review of our application, the bank officer stated UUFVB is eligible for \$123,000 (\$20,000 more than the original request). Rebecca is hopeful that the loan will be approved, since UUFVB is definitely in the queue.

Minister’s Report:

1. Rev. Alexander reported very positive feedback from weekly pre-recorded YouTube sermons, with between 350 and 400 households tuning in each Sunday. Improvements continue to be made with sound and video quality. Scott also reported positive feedback on his daily interaction with members through virtual church blogs.
2. The UUFVB website now has a tab to click for contributions and paying pledges.
3. The search for a new Music Director has been suspended. Elizabeth Borne will assist with music selection for Sunday services, with Jason Horbratschk serving as accompanist.
4. The Worship Committee met earlier on the 16th. Members think safe social distancing, with masks, will last at least another six weeks. Scott doesn’t foresee returning to “normal” in the coming year.
5. That comment led to a preliminary discussion about a move to “live stream” Sunday sermons. UUFVB Webmaster Joe Hardy estimates the cost for equipment for live streaming to be between \$4,500 and \$5,000.
6. Affiliate Minister Carole Yorke and volunteers have been making safety and wellness calls to vulnerable members.

President's Report: None

Old Business:

1. Stewardship Campaign Chair Coco Burt reported that pledges totaling nearly \$336,000 have been received. She is hopeful that pledges will reach \$340,000.
2. Follow up letters will be mailed to about 16 households that pledged last year but have not sent FY 2020-2021 pledges.

New Business:

1. The Annual Meeting date has been changed to Sunday, May 3rd, via Zoom. A quorum will be established if absentee ballots received equal one third of the membership. Members are encouraged to return their ballots by Monday, May 11th.
2. Kathy reported that Patty Walker has assumed the position of Emerson Center Executive Director and has begun lining up events. Kelly Stephens has agreed to serve as EC Marketing Director. Patty will draft an employment agreement for Kelly. Patty will also contact Laura Matson about returning the UUFVB laptop purchased for her use for EC marketing.
3. Tom indicated that he is "indifferent" to working with David Walsh of MusicWorks for future Celtic Angels concerts. He cautioned that moving forward contracts should be tight, and Rebecca said MusicWorks should sell their own tickets.

Board Committee Reports: The Emerson Center, Finance and Ministries Committees did not meet in the past month. Reports from Bridges, Facilities and Finance were emailed to Board members.

1. Because of the Covid 19 outbreak, Bridges attendance is down to about 44 children daily, about a third of typical attendance for this time of year. Bridges Ex. Dir. Brenda Neely is rotating staff to fulfill state requirements.
2. Woody Sutton, Finance Committee Chair reported that the stock market will be the topic of the committee's next meeting.

Process Observer's Remarks: Kathy reported that "everyone practiced beautiful decorum and cooperation."

Meeting Adjourned: at 5:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzy Bromwell, Secretary