

UUFVB Board of Trustees Minutes
Thursday January 20, 2022, 4:30 PM
*“To secure the spiritual and financial future of the Fellowship
by working together with the Congregation”*

Call to Order: Chairman Kathy Cossa called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

Chalice Lighting & Opening Words: Rebecca read the opening words.

Members in attendance: Sue Burt, Kathy Cossa, Barbara Dunst, Rebecca Hornbuckle, Ken Klein, Jonnie Mae Perry, Woody Sutton, Tom Tierney, Patty Walker and Kaaren Anderson *ex officio*;
Guests: Diane Osiecki – *Asst Treasurer*

Appoint Process Observer: Woody embarrassed Ken into doing it.

Consent Agenda

The board unanimously approved the Minutes of December 16, 2021.

Review Current Agenda

Everyone nodded in consent that it was in perfect order

Officers Reports

Treasurer’s Report

Rebecca, referring to the December P&L statement, reported that we had a good December with pledges up almost \$15K and we are ahead YTD by about \$35K. (Reason: prepaid pledges). Offering income is going up thanks to a new Sunday script by Kaaren. Expenses are up a little. Received a restricted donation to pay for lighting upgrades that are currently being made. Net income is over \$109K but \$80K has gone out to Capital improvement so we have approximately \$30K of unrestricted capital available. Nice job Rebecca.

Minister’s Report:

Kaaren reported that she is currently working on a schedule for the Transition team and is working with Kathy on the stewardship campaign that will be chaired by Kathy and Barbara Dunst. Kaaren is working on moving the Sunday Fund more toward an Anti-Racism focus for next year and for the remainder of this year. More to come with the Mission statement review. Watch this space. Woody is asking that we remove the Volunteer Ambulance from Sunday Fund because of recent donations they have received. Kaaren will work with others on the board and the appropriate committees to add Anti-Racism groups to the Sunday Fund.

President’s Report:

Kathy reported the need, discussed in Executive session, to adjust Kim's salary to reflect the large amount of extra time Kim continuously puts in. The finances were discussed involving a current raise to \$25/hr for 35 hours/wk (\$2700 budget impact for this year) and at the beginning of the next fiscal year a bump in approved hours to 40 hours/wk. Discussion followed regarding Exempt vs Non-exempt status. Kim is considered an exempt employee. Tom referred to his work involving the Fair Labors and Standards act and left us all in awe of his esoteric knowledge of the subject. **The increase was approved by unanimous vote of the trustees.** Kaaren thanked the board for addressing this. Kathy will notify Kim.

Board Committee Reports

1. **Bridges** – As we are coming to expect, Yehsica is doing a great job and Kathy feels that a new calm has come over all involved with Bridges. The intent to sell has been tabled for the time being because the Realtor we are working with has become invisible. **Motion to table unanimously approved by the Board.** Kathy is now the total Bridges Committee and with Rebecca's help and the new leadership, she reports that there is no more drama. The issue of next steps will be moved to the Parking Lot.

2. **Facilities** – Kathy commented on the huge amount of work that took place to test the fire alarms last Saturday. The report forwarded to the board detailed the mountain of work involved. Tom suggested that this should be a yearly event so that we don't have the facilities fall into such disrepair again. Kathy also mentioned that the Facilities group and other volunteers are doing a great job updating the florescent lights to LED lighting.
3. **Finance** – no conversation
4. **Emerson Center** – Patty reported that we were just about 1 ½ hours away from the Elton John concert ,our first of the season, with a large crowd having purchased tickets. *Many of the Board watched them practicing prior to our meeting but a motion to cancel the meeting and keep watching was defeated.* There have been no other cancellations going forward for the season. All good.

Old Business (Carried Forward)

1. **Bridges** – Previously discussed.
2. **Capital Reserve fund and the Legacy Gift form (Endowment Gift Letters)**
The question brought forward was to approve the format of the Endowment form allowing specific allocation of a donation to a Capital Reserve fund. The motion is to approve the Endowment form as received.
Unanimously approved by Board.
3. **Coffee served by the board in January**
The board will prepare the coffee, supply goodies, and pick up afterwards Following the January service. Tom noted that he will be there but doesn't drink coffee so he shouldn't be responsible for making it. Woody offered that Tom could run the dishwasher. *No vote was taken.*

New Business / Other discussion

1. Redoing the Mission and Vision Statement

Kaaren reported: The mission of the church is currently more aligned with the Emerson Center rather than the ministries of the church. We need to create a mission that connects members to healing spiritual disconnection, within, among and beyond. One that both reflects our DNA as a congregation and our theology. Once a mission is created, it can serve as the building blocks for a vision statement and long range plan that could be created in collaboration with a newly settled minister. Kaaren would like to start the work in March. This will kick off some of the Transitions Committees work. A meeting to do this would best be done after a Sunday service to capture the largest group of people to participate.

2. Policy about what people may put into the Congregational Record.

In the CR there is a notice about an activity that are for profit as opposed to those that are not. There is a Life Coaching session given by a member and the donation from that is given to the congregation. As long as it isn't labeled Counseling we should be okay. The former mentioned CR insert will not be carried while the latter is a valid CR entry.

3. Status of Nominating Committee regarding upcoming elections.

The nominating committee is Phyllis Atlas, Joe Calwell, Lisa Turano and Peggy Ames. Regarding the current board: Kathy's and Woody's terms are up but can be renewed. Kathy can serve again will stay and Woody can also serve and would possibly continue as VP. Tom will re-up but warned there is outside demands on his time. Coco's term is up an cannot serve a term again so it is open. Ken's position is open also. Rebecca noted that Diane would be willing to take on the Secretary position in light of the fact that Rebecca is not comfortable handing over the Treasurer's slot to her with it in it's current transitional state. Discussion followed regarding having an "Emeritus" position on the board in order to provide perspective on previous proceedings. This issue was tabled. It will be moved to the Parking Lot.

4. Stewardship Committee

Kickoff sermon on Jan 30. Continuing with Membership testimonials this year. As mentioned above, Kathy and Barbara will be the committee for this year's campaign.

Process Observer's Remarks – The meeting was cordial, truthful and laced with polite discussion mpst probably because the Zoom laptop was sitting on top of a huge bible. A good meeting that moved along gracefully.

Meeting adjourned at 5:41 PM

Reminders

1. Opening Words

February - Coco

2. January Board Schedule

- a. Ex. Comm.- Tuesday Feb 8, 2022, 11.00 A.M.
- b. Board- Thursday Feb 17, 2022, 4:30 P.M.