

UUFVB Board of Trustees Minutes
Thursday June 16, 2022, 4:30 PM
*“To secure the spiritual and financial future of the Fellowship
by working together with the Congregation”*

Call to Order - 4:30 PM

Chalice Lighting & Opening Words: Woody

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

Volunteer Process Observer: Jonnie

Minutes of May 19, 2022 – Approved as submitted

Reports

Treasurer’s Report

Rebecca presented the revised budget for FY 22-23. It was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee.

Budgeted income from pledges is \$23,000 less requiring a reduction in expenses where possible. Other expenses were increased. A proposed 6% staff COLA was decreased from 6% to 4%. The budgeted amount of Rev. Kaaren’s payroll tax was corrected, a necessary \$3,000 increase while ministerial professional expenses were reduced.

Sale of Bridges netted \$100,000 cash.

The FY22-23 Budget changes Bridges Overhead from \$90,000 to Bridges Lease income of \$84,000. The Lease income is \$6,000 / year less than Overhead allowance before the sale.

Proposed Revised Budget deficit for next year is \$ -56,415

Deficit to be funded by \$15,000 from anonymous donor, \$30,000 from the sale of Bridges and \$11,000 of Retained Earnings. \$70,000 of Bridges cash to be Restricted for Facilities Fund.

Reasons for the decrease in pledge income and ideas to increase it were discussed. Rev Kaaren will review the congregation’s giving profile with the Finance committee to help next year’s Stewardship Campaign strategy. Seven generous donors passed away last year plus some regular attendees have not yet pledged.

Rebecca moved and Tom seconded that the Board approve the revised budget. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Minister’s Report

Rev Kaaren leaves in a week and will be gone for July and August. Sunday preachers and pulpit hosts are all arranged.

Three projects for the summer:

1. The membership committee is reaching out to missing members.
2. Strategizing with the Facilities Council to prioritize projects. For instance, air conditioning is a priority that cannot wait until units fail. Software licenses must be maintained.
3. The stewardship analysis can be started this summer. On a related note - pledging online during church services needs to be made easy which will capitalize on having a great live stream. KA has heard from pastoral care that people who only watch on TV don’t pledge as much.

President’s Report – Kathy was unavailable for this part of the meeting but added information later

in the meeting to old and new business.

Board Committee Reports— emailed to Board

1. Facilities – Joe provided a long, detailed report. \$70,000 is budgeted in the Facilities reserve for proactively strategizing projects.
2. Finance – as discussed above under the Treasurer’s report.
3. Emerson Center – Patty is working on next year’s schedule. She hopes to get a grant for the E-series from the state.

Old Business:

1. Kaaren’s Grid – nothing to do until next September
2. Lobby Banner – still pending
3. Religious Education Situation 101 – Rev Kaaren nothing new
4. Ministerial Search Committee / Approval and Communication with congregation is key to success.
 - a. 9 members were sworn in last Sunday. Kathy has passed the baton to Ginger Heller. Kathy is pleased with the support from the congregation and will write a report for the Congregational Record.
 - b. A Zoom meeting is scheduled for the Search Committee on Saturday, June 18.
 - c. Goal is to have a retreat by the middle of the summer.

Outgoing Board of Trustee members will be honored for their service (this is not old business but Rebecca asked to mention).

New Business / Other discussion

1. Coco requested a moment for parting words.
She shared that we are fortunate to have Rev Kaaren and anticipates that things will be rocky – she hopes the Board will be more in touch with the congregation, more welcoming and open to new ideas.
2. Covid restrictions - Again?
As it has to do with coffee hour, this coming Sunday will be difficult as there are only a couple of people to set it up. No enthusiasm for mask mandates but we want to encourage safety.
Discontinue holding hands during the service.
Woody suggests to “encourage” masks and social distancing
3. Kathy brought up Joe Hardy’s comprehensive IT report. He drew up a policy for Green Sanctuary. Kathy will send out for discussion in July.
4. We need new ideas for coffee servers and set up people. Carry this over to Old Business for the July meeting. Covenant groups could choose to make Coffee Hour a scheduled project. Rev Kaaren has ideas.

Closing up: Process Observer’s Remarks Meeting went smoothly

MOTION TO Adjourn 5:45

Reminders

1. **Opening Words: July – Jonnie Mae**
2. **July Board Schedule:**
 - a. Ex. Committee - Tuesday July 12, 2022, 11.00 A.M.
 - b. Board - Thursday July 21, 2022, 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Osiecki