

Minutes of the UUYO Board of Trustees Meeting January 10, 2019

Present: Louisa Berger, Andy Crabb, Marguerite Felice, John Gulgas, Ralph Malmer (by phone), Jeanne Tucker and Rev. Joseph Boyd. Absent: Mindi Raley.

Following the reading of the Board Covenant and check-in roles were assigned for the meeting.

Consent Agenda: the report from the Minister and treasurer were discussed and approved. The minutes from the December 2018 Board meeting could not be approved as they were destroyed by a water leak at the home of the Board secretary; none of the other board members had notes to help recreate the minutes, so there will be a gap in the record.

Andy Crabb presented a request from Sarah Lown for funds to have an architect create a proposal for update and modification of the Sanctuary to make it more user-friendly for disabled members and friends and update the design motifs throughout the sanctuary and narthex. Lighting in the sanctuary is an issue for evening events and the challenge of providing options for hearing impaired will also be addressed. John Gulgas moved to authorize funds for this initial review of options; Marguerite Felice seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

On a related topic, Ralph told the Board that David Jones will soon install railing on either side of the stairs to the chancel. Jeanne Tucker brought in ADA specifications to pass on to David.

Reverend Joseph described to the board the program beginning in February called Let's Talk: White Privilege that examines racial identity through a different lens. This program will be open to UUYO members and friends; it may later be offered through other churches and organizations concerned about the issue. It is no accident that this program is debuting in February, the month in which UUYO will hang a Black Lives Matter banner outside the church.

UUYO has received invitations to participate in two organizations recently. Elder Rose Carter has invited UUYO to rejoin ACTION here in Youngstown and Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray called Rev. Joseph to inquire if UUYO would participate in BLUU, a program within UUA that seeks to "provide information, resources and support for Black Unitarian Universalists and works to expand the role & visibility of Black UUs within our faith." Following discussion of these requests Andy moved that we join both groups; Louisa seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Louisa presented the Board with the proposed budget for 2019 which has a 5.1% deficit at the bottom line. The deficit it is caused by three issues:

1. Pledge goal not met – there are several members and friends who have not submitted pledge forms for 2019 and we are confident the shortfall in pledges can be eliminated with determined nagging (oops, persistence).
2. Share the Plate has been removed from the budget if the Board agrees to the suggestion that we will continue to share the plate, but will give all money not specifically designated as pledge or for a specific UUYO program to the monthly recipient

3. There is no revenue budgeted from an auction or collectibles sale. \$6800 was in the budget for 2018. We need fundraising revenue but cannot depend on it; anyone who wants to initiate and operate a fundraiser is encouraged to present their ideas to the Finance Committee.

Following discussion Andy moved that we accept the budget as presented; John Gulgas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Thank UUs. Jeanne Tucker will write and send to the musicians and church singers who performed at the Christmas Eve service; BeckyAnn, Tim Malone, Deb Cunningham for putting together the Solstice service; and David Jones who has donated his time and skill to install the railing in the Sanctuary. Marguerite Felice will do **Bits from the Board** with advice and editing offered by Andy.

Since the next meeting of the Board will be the Board Retreat, which is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 2019 at the church, other roles for a traditional meeting were not assigned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Louisa Berger