

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Restoration

Minutes of the monthly board meeting

September 10, 2017

Present: Tim Styer, Moderator (TS); Stephen Workman, Secretary (SW); Len Rieser, Treasurer (LR); Wayne Boyd (WB), Sandy Fulton, (SF) and Jesse Richardson (JR). Bruce Pollack-Johnson, guest (BPJ)

Unable to attend: Fern Culhane (FC) and Anne Arfaa (AA)

Tim Styer began at 9:15 a.m. with a reading

Justice Council Request: BPJ, representing the Justice Council, presented a request by Terry [Williams] to become a member of the church. Mr.

Motion: *The board will set a date for a congregational meeting for the purpose of allowing the congregation to vote to suspend Article III, Section 1 (membership) of the by-laws in order to allow Terry Williams, who is incarcerated at the SCI Green facility, to become a member of the congregation without appearing in person at church to sign the membership book.* Proposed by SF, seconded by WB

Motion approved

Approval of July 9, 2017 minutes: Motion to approve passed unanimously by board members in attendance.

Financial Update:

Corrected estimate: LR corrected his earlier assumption that fiscal year 2016-17 ended with a surplus. Unaudited records now appear to show a deficit of approximately \$8,000. Maria McCabe's salary and expenses were higher than anticipated, and auction income was less than pledged. LR feels we need to provide better oversight in tracking members and staff responsible for spending budgeted funds. Examples are office supply expenditures, building and grounds, and worship services. TS explained that the increase in Maria McCabe's salary and expenses occurred after it was recognized that an adjustment was needed to provide equity in the housing allowance for the two individuals who served as part-time ministers during the previous church year.

Music budget: LR proposed adjusting Jane Hulting's salary to reflect the fact that she will be reducing her obligation from six units per month (3 rehearsals + 3 Sunday services) to four units per month (2 rehearsals + 2 Sunday services)

Motion: *To set the music director's salary at \$10,700 to reflect a schedule of four units per month.* Proposed by LF, seconded by SF.

Motion approved

Search Committee update: A lead candidate has been identified. The current plan is for the candidate, Anthony Johnson, to preach a sermon following the weekly Black Lives Matter vigil on Thursday, September 14. Two other potential candidates are also under consideration. Members of the congregation will be invited to attend the September 14 sermon.

Board Liaison Assignments:

TS shared a report from AA, who met with the worship associates and noted that services are planned through the end of November, with a potential gap on October 22nd.

SF is preparing monthly and weekly updates from the Justice Council with support from Desi Hannah.

RE Update:

Over the summer, there was a lack of follow-up in the search for a new RE director. TS has reached out to local congregations for assistance. A potential candidate has emerged, who has had experience as an RE director for the 1st Unitarian Church in Center City. A formal application is pending.

Sarah Ahrens, the consultant who was made available through the UUA, has proposed a two-hour workshop. She would do so after an RE director has assumed the position at Restoration.

LR proposed a plan to develop a formal agreement for Isabel Rieser and Jyl to be developed as their role evolves.

Request by Dawn Star Sarahs-Borchelt:

The family of Bob Holtzman would like to have a memorial plaque dedicated to Bob, and asked about the possibility of interring Bob's ashes on the church property. The request is to be referred to the Building and Grounds Committee.

W.T. Dikeman Entryway:

SW proposed commemorating Bill Dikeman's long (~40 year) tenure as Restoration's Sunday service greeter by dedicating the vestibule in Bill's honor. Countless members have noted that they had been encouraged to call Restoration their church home because of Bill's enthusiastic greeting at the church door on their first visit and that he called them by name at their next visit.

Motion by SW, seconded by SF *"To dedicate the church vestibule in honor of the decades W.T. (Bill) Dikeman cheerfully greeted people as they entered the sanctuary and to procure a plaque for this purpose."*

Motion approved

Board Retreat:

Discussion to hold a church retreat on a weekend, beginning on Friday evening and lasting through Saturday. Proposing October 27-28 at Maple Village in Germantown, potentially with Pat Infante as facilitator.

Action Items:

TS to follow-up on Holtzman request

TS to follow-up on RE Director

LR to provide a more comprehensive budget report by the date of the congregational meeting.

SF to continue auction publicity

SF to continue weekly and monthly Justice Committee updates

SW, TS, and SF to meet regarding Desi Hannah

Motion to adjourn was unanimous