

**Second Unitarian Church of Chicago  
Board of Trustees  
July 11, 2017 Meeting  
Minutes**

**Approved August 8, 2017**

Trustee	Attending(Y/N)	Trustee	Attending(Y/N)
Tom Denio, Past Chair	Y	Dana Hill, Treasurer	Y
Dan Lewis, Chair	Y	Mary-Helen Steindler, Council Chair	Y
Tom Clowes, Chair Elect	Y	Susan Richter	Y
Joyce Haeckel, Secretary	Y		
Staff	Attending (Y/N)	Staff	Attending(Y/N)
Rev. Adam Robersmith	Y	Andrew Zallar, Congregational Administrator	Y
Guests			

**Meeting Kick-off**

- Dan Lewis, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:10pm. Board Members recited the Covenant. Dan called for this to be a year of possibility and read a selection from “The Art of Possibility” by Rosamund Stone Zander and Benjamin Zander. He distributed copies of the book to all board members.
- Dan welcomed Joyce Haeckel as a new board member.
- Board members checked in.
- Tom Denio moved to approve the Minutes of the June 14, 2017 Board Meeting and Dana Hill seconded. The motion carried.
- There were no changes to the Agenda provided by Dan.

**Report on General Assembly**

Tom Denio said that he attended the inspiring Ware Lecture given by Bryan Stevenson. At the session on the search process for a settled minister, he was told that a congregation should expect to spend 10-15 thousand dollars on the process. He also attended the Beloved Conversations session.

Rev. Adam said that he was honored to be part of a panel providing the Barry Street Lecture. He found the pre-convention Ministry Days very worthwhile.

**Important Dates**

- Rev. Adam’s last Sunday at 2U is July 30.
- Rev. Jennie’s first day is August 1.
- Retreat for Beloved Conversations is September 22-23.
- Fall Fest scheduled for Saturday, October 21.
- Pet Blessing service and Open House are scheduled for late September or early October.

**Staff Reports**

- Rev. Adam reported that he is busy preparing for his departure. In addition to cleaning out his office, he is helping some people with closure.

- Andrew Zallar provided three written reports: Monthly Activity Review, Summary of BIG Expenses for 2016-17, and Summary of Restricted Donations and Expenses for 2016-17. He said we ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$17, 853.98. The HVAC work is complete, pending the moving of the vents scheduled for August, and the chancel cabinets are complete.
- Alicia Obando submitted a written Faith Development report, which included a request for help in recruiting Sunday School teachers for the fall.

### **Congregational Health and Activities**

- Mary-Helen Steindler reported that there is not much Council activity during the summer.
- COM is disbanded while we have an interim minister. A conflict resolution facilitated by Karen Goldner and Darrick Jackson is ongoing. Dan will send an email to Karen and Darrick authorizing them to continue representing the congregation in resolving this conflict. The congregational evaluation done by COM is complete and will be submitted to the Board when finalized.
- Dan reported on the status of Social Justice One on Ones. Scott Aaseng has said that leadership has not yet come together for this process. Tom D. commented that Kim Warman is feeling a little overwhelmed and could use some help. It was suggested that this might be something the nominating committee could help with. Andrew commented that some new members have expressed an interest in this.
- Strategic Planning Team met with Dan and Tom D. and Tom C. for some direction. They will also meet with the Team on the 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Tom D. reported that all 43 tickets are sold for the Cubs Outing August 6.

### **Finance Review and Discussion**

- Treasurer's Report was given by Dana Hill. Written documents submitted by Dana included the Monthly Budget Report, the Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2017, and a Metrics Report. Dana commented that our attendance last month was up from last year and that the pledges received for the fiscal year were greater than budgeted. The lemonade stand was successful and building space sharing is up.
- Tom D. presented recommendations of the Finance Committee. Twenty percent of space sharing income from January 1 through June 30, 2017, amounting to \$3,089, is in a restricted building fund. It was moved by Tom D. and seconded by Dana Hill to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the entire amount of the Restricted Space Sharing Building Fund of \$3,089 be moved to the Unrestricted Building Fund to be used for projects and repairs as necessary.
- The Finance Committee pointed out that the Board needs to decide the disposition of the surplus of \$17,853.98. They recommend that \$8,405 be allocated for paying the interim minister's moving expenses and that the surplus balance of \$9,448.98 be retained in a "Restricted" subaccount of the Operating Fund until final decisions about its disposition are made by the Board in November 2017. The Board agreed to postpone decisions on this second recommendation until after Rev. Jennie Barrington is here.

### **Building and Grounds Update—Tom D. and Andrew**

- A new chair of the Building and Grounds Committee is needed. Sue Richter has asked someone but has not yet had an answer.
- The HVAC has been installed and the tube elevation is scheduled for August 21-24.
- More water damage was found, but the source has still not been determined. Tuckpointing and interior painting are pending.

## **Old Business**

Beloved Conversations update discussed. A retreat is scheduled for September 22-23 and will be followed by eight additional sessions. We need advertising for people to sign up. Group size preference is 12. Two facilitators are needed and should preferably represent some diversity, be members of 2U, and be volunteers. Adam will make a pitch for this on July 23 and will try to get an article in the July 15 Anvil. Signup sheets and printed material should be made available. Other churches participating are Evanston, Unity Temple, Hinsdale, DuPage and Countryside. There will be a multi-congregations service for Beloved Conversations at People's Church on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **New Business**

- Dan asked for ideas for welcoming Rev. Jennie. Mary-Helen offered to host a cookout on August 5. Sue will invite Jennie and make sure this date is good for her. The Transition Team members will also be invited. COM had suggested there be an all-congregation potluck. Adam suggested we ask Jennie for ideas. We are taking photos of congregation members for Jennie, which can also be posted to the Breeze directory.
- The Board suggested names for the Interim Transition Team. Those suggested will be contacted and asked if they would be willing to serve.
- Tom C asked the Board to consider changing the night of Board meetings. It was agreed to wait to discuss this at a later meeting.

## **Recognition of Reverend Adam**

The individual Board members recognized Rev. Adam for the caring and very competent leadership he has provided to themselves as individuals and to the entire 2U congregation.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Joyce Haeckel, Secretary