

Board Notes

From First Unitarian Weekly Connections Newsletter dated April 20, 2017

Growing Things

After accepting the March minutes and treasurers report, the treasurer indicated that income and expenditures are meeting the appropriate 75% benchmark. The Board's vote (April 3, 2017 email) recommending a single flexible roof funding proposal to the congregation and the affirmative congregational vote funding the roof replacement (April 9, 2017) were entered into the minutes. There was a reminder that General Assembly is in New Orleans June 21-25, 2017 and it is a presidential election year.

Rev. Joel's minister's report highlighted the formation of a Personnel Team: Tom Wetherell, Chair; Tim Farnum, Board of Trustees; and Kim Joy, staff. A new Worship Team will be led by Roberta Buckle. Rev. Joel is reviewing insurances covering church assets. Our attorney suggested increasing the building insurance.

In highlighting "What's Good?" Rev. Joel was particularly pleased with the tone and unanimous outcome of the April 9, 2017 congregational roof-funding meeting. He also highlighted our new church website, co-designed and built by Carol Anne Cleary. The next project is revising the newsletter for next fall. Rev. Joel is pleased to have Laurie Collins become his administrative assistant and is relieved to have the additional support. Rev. Joel indicated that Anne and Tom Perry, Linda and David Friedman (who is running for a national office), Carolyn Rankin, Paul Minor and Len Stein were approved as delegates. There are several delegate slots still available. It was noted the board supported Susan Frederick Gray's presidential nomination.

Rev. Joel briefly summarized the complicated issues, resignations and the emerging interim plans related to the lack of staff diversity at the Unitarian Universalist Association. Leadership-nominating Chair Ahlia Kitwana presented the 2017-18 slate. The Board of Trustees unanimously nominated Tim Farnum for 2017-18 Board President. Running for four board openings are: Mary Hammele, Greg North, Courtney Miller, Shadie McAnally and Barbara de Leeuw. Nominating Committee candidates are Janis Minor, John Dancy, and Laura Humphrey. There are two positions.

Financial maintenance focused on bringing three funds into compliance with the current by laws; The Income Endowment Fund, Building Maintenance Reserve Fund and the Property Maintenance and Improvement Fund were revised. The PMI threshold for unbudgeted expenditures before Board approval was also raised from \$2000 to \$10,000. The Sunday Concert Bequest Fund was terminated.

John Solberg reported on the annual budget drive progress. The THRIVE team, Paul Suwijn, Sue Ames, Cynthia Looney, John Farrell, Louise Paulsen and 66 volunteers, are contacting congregants. Please support the wonderful programs in our community with your generous pledge and consider an increase eligible for "dollar to dollar" matching funds. Currently, about \$28,500 will be matched.

Good governance policy review focused on Section 3 Parish Minister Limitations. There was extended discussion on the adequacy of language related to treatment of staff, volunteers and congregants related to discrimination. There was further discussion on the use of "First Unitarian Church." The meeting ended in a brief executive session on personnel.

Growing better...together,

Barb

Barbara de Leeuw, President of the Congregation