



First Unitarian Church of Rochester
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2021
6:30 pm by Zoom

Attendance: Ken Buckle, Barbara Gawinski, Jon Horne, Lynn Kinsman, Robert Lyubomirsky, Courtney Miller, Gregory North, Anne Perry, Cathy Reda-Cheplowitz, Paul Suwijn, Kyle Williams, Rev. Shari Halliday-Quan.

Guests:

Absent:

1. Establish a Quorum and Call Meeting to Order at 6:35 pm — Gregory North
2. Chalice lighting – Rev. Shari Halliday-Quan
Centering Reading – Gregory:
"To the people who have mistaken freedom for liberation."
From Theresa I. Soto's Spilling the Light
3. Consent Agenda [*Note: consent agenda includes items that are distributed before the Board meeting and are voted on without discussion. Any Board member can request that an item be removed so that it can be discussed.*]
 - a. June 14, 2021, Board minutes
 - b. Email Board Decisions:
To create a fresh, welcoming reception area in the lobby with visual focus that communicates our values and the message that we are ready and excited to welcome visitors, guests, and longtime members, alike. To update Room 209 where UU 101 is held.
MOTION: to approve spending up to \$18,000 on furniture and signage in the church lobby and Room 209.
Moved: Anne Perry Seconded: Courtney Miller
Motion passed by email on June 24, 2021.
Consent Agenda Passed
4. Board Vacancy – Mara Sanchez resigned effective June 30, moving out of the area.
MOTION: To appoint EJ Santos to fill a board vacancy, effective immediately.
Moved: Gregory North Seconded: Kyle Williams
Motion passed
5. Vice President
MOTION: to name Lynn Kinsman as Vice President
Moved: Gregory North Seconded: Robert Lyubomirsky
Motion passed

6. Committee Assignments:
- a. Leadership Nominating Committee – Paul Suwijn appointed for second year
 - b. Linkage – Kyle, Jon,
 - c. Policy Governance – Lynn, Robert, Anne,
Board members asked to notify Gregory North of their preferences
7. Board Retreat
- Agenda has been posted on Board shared google drive
 - Friday evening, August 20 and Saturday, August 21, 8:30-2
 - Online rather than in person, in light of the spreading delta variant of COVID-19.
 - At 6:30 on Friday, please be prepared to speak to why you joined the Board.
 - Please read through the pre-reads on covenant and on Ends – Challenges and Opportunities
8. Board Training Opportunity - Renee Ruchotzke – 3 part series on Helpful Board Habits Aug 17, Sept 21 and Oct 19. Fee is \$15 – contact Rev. Shari for reimbursement.
9. Minister's Report.
- a. Staff updates.
 - i. Mandated full vaccination for staff and volunteer by September 12
 - ii. Rev. AJ is here – welcome picnic in conjunction with parking lot trunk sale
 - iii. Florence Jessup, Director of Operations, is here
 - iv. Shannan Foos – is adding 10 hours per work for pastoral care coordination for this budget year
 - v. Rev. AJ shifting to Social Justice
 - vi. Rev. Shari will focus on outreach
 - b. COVID update
 - i. we are exceeding the COVID rate that is in the re-opening plan
 - ii. In person inside the building worship is delayed
 - c. Building Project Update
 - i. masonry upgrades starting this week
 - d. WiFi needs to be expanded. Not reliable. Not available in lots of areas of the church - \$20,000 upper limit
 - e. Tents and heaters would allow more connection on the building grounds through the fall. Two tents and 12 propane gas heaters - \$12,000.
 - f. Other items being contemplated are not urgent tonight.
- MOTION:** To approve WiFi and firewall upgrades up to \$20,000.
Moved: Lynn Kinsman Seconded: Robert Lyubomirsky
Motion passed

MOTION: authorize \$12,000 for purchasing two tents and 12 propane heaters.

Moved: Paul Suwijn Seconded: Ken Buckle

Motion passed

Note: Unresolved Issue – safe storage of propane heaters

10. Treasurer's Report.

- a. Year End at August meeting – review detailed treasury reports
 - i. \$73.9k rolled over to operating cash reserve. Half because we overachieved with pledge and building usage. Some of that is stimulus checks being donated. Half reduced expenses.
 - ii. Increased labor cost going into next year, also spent \$25,000 for moving expenses for Assistant Minister and Director of Operations.
 - iii. \$126,000 spent on social justice – plate collection, Greater Good, Board authorized.
 - iv. Substantial increase in endowment – combination of bequests and market gains. No guarantees on market gains in the future.
 - v. July – PPE second loan has been forgiven. \$133,022 moved from liability to operating cash reserve. Short term reserve keeps growing.
 - vi. Dick Fitts bequest – expect to resolve this fall.
- b. Investment Committee Members
 - i. Annie McQuilken, Chair
 - ii. Committee members: Ron Steinman, Doug Constable, Amanda Kish, Judy Oaks
 - iii. Robert Lyubomirsky – ex-officio

MOTION: to appoint Annie McQuilken, Chair of Investment Committee and to appoint the following committee members: Ron Steinman, Doug Constable, Amanda Kish, Judy Oaks and Treasurer Robert Lyubomirsky (ex-officio).

Moved: Robert Lyubomirsky Seconded: Anne Perry

Motion passed

11. Exit interviews were held with Rev. Margalie Belizaire and with Kim Joy.

12. Adjourn. With no objection, meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

13. Closing and Extinguish the Chalice – Rev. Shari Halliday-Quan