

Unity Church Unitarian: Meeting of the Board of Trustees

January 23, 2019

via Zoom

Board of Trustees (BOT) members present: Jennifer Tong, Chair, Jill van Koolwijk, Secretary, Nila Gouldin, Ruth Kirkland, Clover Earl, Justin Cummins, Jackie Smith, John Steiner-Manning

Executive Team (ET) members present: Janne Eller-Isaacs, Barbara Hubbard

Others present: Laura Park

Discussion

To launch the grant to the Templeton Foundation to get funding for the Spirit Map project.

Clover Earl moved to approve the grant to the Templeton Foundation for Spirit Map. The motion passed unanimously.

(Spirit Map has a 12-year history with Unity Church to measure spiritual transformation. In the last 5 years, Bill Etter and Laura Park have measured spiritual well-being, strengths and opportunities with many participants at Unitarian Universalist churches. Now, Unity consulting needs to develop tools to help congregations use the Spirit Map effectively for spiritual growth. There was an inquiry to the Templeton Foundation if this was something they would fund and they responded that they would. It's a small grant for the Templeton Foundation, \$234,309. Sarah Cledwyn is part of the team, because she understands this tool very well as a spiritual director, and she will be part of training spiritual directors to use Spirit Map.

We discussed risks that this product might have, legal risks, emotional harm, copyright issues, Intellectual property issues and royalties (Laura Park and Bill Etter vs Unity Church).

Nila and Justin also brought up the question about intellectual property (IP) ownership, as generally the party who pays expects ownership. Currently Laura and Bill own the copyright. They are working through a plan for Unity Church to own it but Laura and Bill would still get royalties. The details of IP have not been fully worked out and they are working with Unity's lawyer Sally Scroggins to clarify the details. We'll want to review any final documents carefully with regard to ownership if the grant is received.)

Monitoring Reports

Staff Changes:

Justin Cummins moved to approve staff changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Communication and Counsel to the Board:

Ruth Kirkland moved to approve accept the Executive Team's report as in compliance with Policy H. The motion passed unanimously.

(Team Dynamics will start work with the congregation, the board and the ET. More info will follow. The board requests to be included in monthly updates. A clarification: I requested that the ET include

an update on the Team Dynamics work in each monthly Communication & Counsel to the Board monitoring report, because the Trustees are very interested in the work and looking for opportunities to further engage with it.)

Financial Condition:

Clover Earl moved to approve accept the Executive Team's report as in compliance with Policy E. The motion passed unanimously.

(At the end of November, there were strong financial indicators. The Board expects cash flow projections, after a comptroller has been hired. Two candidates have been interviewed. The new limitations require a forecast and the current set of reports does not include one. Expectation is we'd start seeing a forecast with the January 2019 financials.)

Business Matters – Consent Agenda

Approval of the November and December Board Meeting minutes.

Justin Cummins moved to approve the November and December Board Meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Jill van Koolwijk, secretary.