

## September Meeting Minutes:

### Unity Church Unitarian: Meeting of the Board of Trustees November 14 , 2020

The meeting took place in zoom.

**Board of Trustees (BOT) members present:** Jackie Smith (chair), Jill van Koolwijk (secretary), Jennifer Tong, Nila Gouldin, Ruth Kirkland, Clover Earl, Alex Askew, Justin Cummins, Louise Livesay-AI

**Executive Team (ET) members present:** Barbara Hubbard, KP Hong

**Guests:** Laura Park

Jackie Smith called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

An opening reading “Wild Geese” by Mary Oliver was offered by Jackie Smith.

Focus Question: “How have you given or received grace within, among, and beyond?”

#### **Monitoring Reports – ET report**

##### Policy II.E. Financial Condition:

***Louise Livesay-AI moved to accept the Executive Team report as in compliance with policy II E. The Financial Condition here refers specifically to the September 2020 financial reports. The motion passed unanimously.***

(Discussion: Vernon was very engaged this month in the final version of the financial statements and the narrative overview. This is a big step forward.  
No cashflow statement this month. Pledges are still on track.)

##### Policy II.B. Staff Changes:

***Jill van Koolwijk moved to accept the Executive Team report as in compliance with policy II B (Staff Changes). The motion passed unanimously.***

(Discussion: Unity named Martha Tilton the Technical Director for live stream events and added Vladimir Garrido as a new Sound Technician for live stream events. Unity matched payment with NACBA guidelines.)

## Policy II.H. Communication and Counsel to the Board:

***Clover Earl moved to accept the Executive Team report as in compliance with policy II H (Communication and Counsel to the Board). The motion passed unanimously.***

(Discussion: The Sanctuary Family has moved to their own apartment with furnishings and some resources for additional needs in Hopkins with the help of Tower Club volunteers. A happy day for Unity.

Unity is in communication with other refugees who will need to move into sanctuary. Janne Eller-Isaacs is in charge of this.)

## Policy II.I. Facilities Planning:

***Louise Livesay-Al moved to accept the Executive Team report as in compliance with policy II I (Facilities Planning). The motion passed unanimously.***

(Discussion: Our archive team that has spent countless hours over the past seven years working to identify, file and archive historical documents, photos and artifacts that tell the history of Unity Church. We have transferred 107 boxes of our archival materials to the Minnesota Historical Society.

Kate Hujda, the curator at the MHS was approached to see if there might be a way to catalogue this material with their help. She informed us that an estimated \$10k-\$15k would hire someone to do the cataloging. The Executive Team considered the request of the Archive Team and have dedicated \$10k of an unrestricted gift to this project.)

## **Prophetic Leadership**

As the Trustees and ET have engaged in growth around our Ends, how will we move toward many transitions and continue forward?

-K.P. is reiterating that the staff is charged with the task of strong Faith Formation in the congregation. Justice work and theological work needs to be intimately intertwined in our multicultural work and work on the IDI.

-Jackie feels strongly that the board and the congregation need to move along with the IDI work to move Unity from Minimization towards Adaptation and Acceptance.

-Louise asked the question of how do we help the Ministerial Search Team understand the importance of these above-mentioned issues as they do their work?

- It was clarified that the MST will be asked to take the IDI and work on their own intercultural competence as part of their work.

-Barbara thinks that the Interim Minister will be a great help in moving us forward.

## **Break**

## **Subcommittee Reports**

Transition Team:

The bios and photos of the 21 candidates for the Ministerial Search Team will go to the congregation next Monday, Nov 16. The pledging members of the congregation can vote for up to 5 candidates on the list until Sunday, Nov 22 at noon. The top 5 nominees will come out of this vote, which will then be filled out by the board of trustees to 9 total nominees for the MST. The meeting for this decision will be next Sunday, Nov 22 at 5:00pm for the full board. Reminders will be given at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation next Saturday, in the worship service and coffee hour this/next Sunday.

Policy Team:

The monitoring schedule of the limitations needs to be reviewed. Next year's board will take it up when the new policy team has been created.

## **Consent Agenda**

Approval of October 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

***Alex Askew moved to accept the October 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.***

## **Board Business**

Annual Meeting preparation is almost complete. The pledging members of the congregation need to register for the Annual Meeting and attend on individual devices to be counted correctly and to reach a quorum. We need 10% of voting members to reach a quorum, which is 92 based on the current count. The meeting will be recorded and the agenda is already set and the assignments have been populated. The agenda will determine when each speaker is up.

The December board dinner will be cancelled and instead, there will be a zoom meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 to do reflections and introductions of old and new board members.

## **Meeting evaluation**

Jackie Smith asked for a meeting evaluation with a couple of words about "Grace".

Jackie Smith offered a closing reading from "The Pocket Pema Chödrön".

Jackie Smith adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jill van Koolwijk, secretary.*