

Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis
Board of Trustees Meeting
Zoom; July 28, 2020; 6:48 pm – 9:19 pm
Approved Minutes 8/25/20

In attendance: Leika Lewis-Cornwell, Jenn Pollitt Hill, Kari Alperovitz-Bichell, Peter Morse, Jane Carrigan, Linda Mundy, Carrie Kotcho, Rev. Zinke, Heather Millar

Chalice Lighting and Opening Words: Carrie

Brief Check-in: All

Approve Minutes for June 23: Carrie

Action: Motion made by Peter and seconded to approve the minutes for the June 23, 2020 Board meeting as adjusted tonight. Discussion. 8th Principle Considered.

Approved

Approve the Board's Charge to the Best Use of Land Committee: Jane

Action: Motion made by Peter and seconded to approve the Board's Charge to the Best Use of Land Committee as emailed to Board members on July 18, 2020, approved by the Board Executive Committee on July 20 and posted on the Board Google Drive on July 23, 2020. Discussion. 8th Principle was considered. **Approved Copy in the Board Drive.**

Report from GA: Jane, Heather

Virtual GA – Jane gave a short report on her experience. Overall felt very much like an in-person GA, and felt that following a full agenda for each day helped get the GA experience. Sign-ups for workshops were fairly simple. Some were very intimate with small groups and others very large. She appreciated the way they did voting and it worked well. She thought that the platform and event went well and would do it again in virtual format. Registered attendees can view the workshops in archived form.

Jackie Pruner, Leika and Heather are working to build a PowerPoint that sums up this year's GA experience. A preliminary version was shared. Heather will post the completed version on our UUCA website.

Board Reports:

Finance Officer Report: Kari

Cash available for operating is \$79,000 which is pretty good for summer. This does not include the PPP loan. Pledges were about \$41,000 by the time of this meeting, which is ok, but not great. The PPP has made a positive difference in our finances this summer. We will be able to use the full PPP amount without requesting an extension.

Mark Ewert will be coming to meet with us soon to help us with our stewardship.

Dan Moreau is checking with UUA on financially geared resources that support the 8th Principle.

Carrie asked if we can put a member's pledge month in the Church Life app. Kari will investigate this.

Summer Minister's Report: Leika

Leika provided highlights from her written report for July. Next weekend Rev. John and Rev. Zinke will retreat to plan for their shared ministry and executive functions.

She reported that the Faith Formation outdoor spaces are being redeveloped as earth centered "green" spaces for our children. The plan is to allow UUCA families to sign up and use the spaces and the free WIFI. The work is nearly done. Heather will write a thank you note to recognize those responsible for designing these spaces.

Rev. Zinke will take over Leika's role on ACT. Leika set up a meet and greet for ACT leadership and Rev. Zinke. ACT has a process that we must follow to get Rev. Zinke on the Steering Committee.

The ministry and executive team is planning a full year of virtual services and dual planning for in-person if it becomes medically safe to gather.

The church is hosting limited rentals for physically distance/safe uses. There are no regularly scheduled revenue generating rental arrangements at present. There was some discussion about using outdoor spaces for meetings and other rental uses. Peter shared ideas for doing some landscaping work that would allow more outdoors rentals. Leika and Finance Committee are investigating. Peter will also talk with Jan Bird about this.

Leika also remarked on the great work being done by the membership team.

There are two requests for Board action:

ACTION: Motion made by Jenn and seconded to appoint Rev. Crestwell and Rev. Zinke as the co-executives of UUCA beginning August 1, 2020. Discussion. 8th Principle was considered. **Approved.**

ACTION: Motion made by Jane and seconded to approve Rev. Zinke's annual housing allowance of \$74,440 prorated for the months of August through December of tax year 2020. Discussion. 8th Principle was considered. **Approved.**

As we continued our meeting, we took time to consider our work in light of the 8th Principle to accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

We considered the 8th principle with respect to this meeting. We reviewed our "Commitment to Action." We are all continuing to read "Subtle Acts of Exclusion" book. Carrie expressed concern that our virtual world is excluding some people and that we may not even know who. We might consider a device loan or share program. Staff and Rev. Anastassia will investigate who may be excluded (newcomers and longtime members) and suggest steps UUCA can take to remedy.

Board Self-Assessment, Accountability Agreement, Covenant: Heather

Heather reviewed these documents and asked Rev. Anastassia to work with staff to find an electronic signing tool. Not all self-assessments have been turned in. Heather asks all to be turned in immediately.

BEEC2 Update: Peter

Peter gave highlights from document submitted to Board by BEEC2. The committee has been making significant progress. Next week they will submit a scope of work for the ADA shower. They are looking for a pool of HVAC contractors to send our request for proposal. The decision on the need to tie into the county water line for the current phase of work is still in discussion. Several Board members expressed interest in preserving as much of the greenery as possible around the new entryway. A suggestion was made to put tile underneath the area where our candles burn.

BBC/Board Update: Kari, Carrie, Jenn, Heather, Linda

The group is working to get a meeting scheduled. Linda is going to do a Doodle Poll.

Review Congregational Meetings: All

Heather led a discussion about the methods we used to prepare for and hold productive Congregational meetings. Appreciation was shared about offering multiple Congregational Conversations and multiple practice Zoom meetings. Heather shared appreciation for Leika's calm and skillful handling of technical and procedural glitches.

The Right Relations Committee wasn't as used as much as during our in-person meetings. The Board discussed the idea of keeping the RRC active throughout the year. Rev. Zinke shared her experience with the new Ministerial code of conduct at UUA and suggests that her work there might be the right fit for an ongoing group. Jane noted that this will take some focused thought and attention, so it does not become a "complaint department" but an opportunity for learning and change.

Calendar: Heather

1. September 13 In-Gathering
2. December 6: Congregational Meeting
3. December 17: Board Meeting (tentative)

Expectations for August Board Meeting

1. Opening and Closing will be done by Jane
2. Staff will have some preliminary budget information to share
3. We will need to revisit Governing Policies to update language in regarding Disruptive Behavior Policy at our next meeting.

Check-out: All

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice: Carrie

9:07

Submitted by Carrie Kotcho, Secretary



Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis Board Charge to The Best Use of Land Committee

Committee Purpose

An offer has been received to purchase a significant section of UUCA property. The use of UUCA land requires careful deliberation and input by the membership. The purpose of the Best Use of Land Committee is to gather information to inform the Congregation's discussion and ultimate decision.

Duration and Time Commitment

The Committee is convened by the Board for the purpose of gathering information about land use and this offer to purchase and is not intended to exist in perpetuity to make determinations of land use not yet foreseen. The Committee will report to the Board in August of this year.

Scope

The Committee is convened by the Board for the purpose of gathering information about the land and will not make a recommendation of whether or not to sell the land but will research options and discover the input of the stakeholders and others affected by the sale. Their investigation will inform the determination if UUCA should consider the offer to purchase a significant parcel of land. The Committee will determine the exigencies of making said sale with respect to the Congregation's needs and plans, input of UUCA's neighbors, the valuation and market value, and the county and state regulations which may apply.

Members

The Committee will be comprised of Jane Carrigan and Diane Ratcliff (serving as Co-chairs), Joi Howard, Scott Eden, Evelyn Spurgin, Jackie Heimbuch and Earl Wise.

Process Guidelines

The Committee will research the history, current and anticipated future uses and value of the land as well as zoning issues that may apply. The Committee will also investigate the impact of the sale of the land on various constituencies within the UUCA congregation as well as immediate neighbors and the larger community. They will also examine the details of the offer to purchase, including possible alternative options.