



Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis
Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom
January 25, 2022; 6:50pm – 9:15 pm
Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92252637488>
Minutes Approved

In Attendance: Stan Keeve, Jan Bird, Carrie Kotcho, Kari Alperovitz-Bichell, Jenn Pollitt Hill, Rev. John, Rev. AZ, Mike Wanhatalo, Jane Carrigan

Chalice Lighting and Opening Words

6:50

Approve Minutes

Action: Motion by Kari and seconded to approve minutes from the November 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. **Approved**

Action: Motion by Jenn and seconded to approve minutes from December 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. **Approved**

BOARD REPORTS

Finance Office Report - Kari Alperovitz-Bichell

Kari reported that the preliminary report shows that "cash available for operating" on 12/31/21 was up from \$3.6K to \$93K - However, this includes \$35,000 of endowment money that was moved to operating in December - but we actually should not have made that paper transfer, and it will be reversed before the 2021 financials are finalized. That will leave the \$35,000 from endowment available for the 2022 budget, as we had

hoped, and it will also decrease the figure we will see on the "cash available for operating" line by \$35,000. Additionally, that number should decrease by the amount of any unpaid 2021 bills that have yet to come in and should increase by \$16,000 that will be moved over from the "prior year surplus" designated fund (money left from 2020 and before). Her tentative guess is that the final "cash available for operating " at the end of 2021 will be about \$68,000.

This number is better than the \$3600 we had showing at the end of November because the end of year appeal netted \$18K (we expected \$15K), and pledges paid in December were \$83K (this best December in 5 years). We are in acceptable shape as we start 2022.

Regarding the change of stewardship plan from year-round to spring, the finance committee recommends that at the April meeting, we ask the congregation to approve a change in the fiscal year (July 1-June 30) starting in July 2023. We would continue to use the current 2022 budget. In fall of 2022 we would develop and approve a 6-month budget. The first annual spring stewardship campaign could be in spring 2023. Pam is checking with 2 other churches who have made the change for their advice.

Action: Motion by Jan that the Board of Trustees ask Kari to continue on her position on the finance committee. Seconded. **Approved.**

Action: Motion by Kari that the BOT recommends that the congregation approve a change in our fiscal year to July 1 to June 30 starting July 1, 2023. Further, the BOT will bring this to the Congregation at the spring 2022 congregational meeting. Seconded. **Approved**

Ministers' Report – Revs. John and Anastassia

Rev. John reported that the Ministers have been working with the Nominating Committee to start a new leadership series. He reported that the needs/requests for Pastoral care have been high. He also expressed thanks for the Installation Service and the members and guests who made it special. Julie Berman is working with Dr. Olga Pabon to prepare a Parenting Faithfully session titled, “How to talk to your kids about racism,” to be held during After Hour on Sunday, January 30th. The session will be online and in person and childcare will be available throughout the meeting.

Rev. John observed that Christmas services were good, but donations to UUSC were low.

They also reported that throughout this church year there have been two paid childcare workers staffed on Sunday mornings, due to reduced need for childcare, starting on Sunday, January 20th, we will just have one childcare worker on Sunday mornings.

Rev. John shared his pleasure at being able to attend the 46th Annual Freedom Fund Awards Program where member Thornell Jones was honored with a Humanitarian of the Year award.

He also reported that we will begin posting for the positions of Membership Coordinator and Faith Formation Assistant beginning in February for a month. The two individuals in these positions will both apply but we will hold a transparent and fair process to permanently fill these positions by April 1, 2022.

Lastly, Rev. John reported that he has begun collecting information to begin the grant application process with the UU Funding Panel and JPD (CERG) Chalice Lighters. Additionally, during his sabbatical, he will spend

time developing an “anthology” of his works which will include podcasts, writings, sermons, quotes, etc. as an archive of his work for posterity.

Rev. Anastassia reported that she is working with Pat Fleeaharty to develop a plan, volunteer team, and partner connections to help assist in the resettlement of a refugee family. She feels this would likely be a 6-month commitment unless we formed strong interfaith partnership teams. Our neighbor Quakers are interested as well as other faiths and she will connect with them to discuss.

In preparation for local and national work on reproductive justice, Rev. Anastassia attended a program offered by our UUA’s strategy organizing team, “Our Calling to Reproductive Justice: a webinar for religious professionals,” on January 11, and is registered for the Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity (SACReD) conference. This will take place online January 25-26, 2022, and is for justice-oriented people of faith, activists, and leaders from the reproductive health, rights, and justice community.

BEEC 2-Jan

No formal update

Rev. Anastassia gave a brief update on the main entrance which focused on work to obtain the required permits.

Eighth Principle Implementation Group - Mike and Jenn

Mike and Jenn reported that the first meeting of the Eighth Principle Implementation Working group for this work was last Thursday and Stan Keeve has been instrumental in getting this effort off the ground. Together the three have started to shape the working group. Currently, the members are Jenn Pollitt Hill, Soren Byrd (LEAD), Mike Wanhatalo, Olga Pabon, Jeanne Jehl, Angelique Berry. They are establishing the meeting schedule, how they’ll work etc. Feb 3 is their next meeting. Jenn reported that the working group has a very positive energy and will meet monthly. First, they

will talk through recommendations on what should be in the BOT's charge to the group so they can build a timeline and deliverables.

BBC - Stan

Stan reported that the BBC is taking January off to rest and regroup. Several members will get together for planning in February and then they plan to go back to regular meetings in March. Members are interested in doing the Jubilee anti-racist training. Stan reached out to the Charleston, SC congregation which is currently approving the 8th principle and are also working on their 8th principle implementation plan. He plans to reach out to other UU congregations in the area to gather lessons learned.

Ends Statements Interpretations (ready to be finalized) – Rev.

Anastassia

Rev. AZ remarked that the Interpretation of the Global Ends statements (as we discussed at our June retreat needs to be finalized and approved by the Board. Ministers are asking the Board to adopt the interpretations of the ends statements so that we can all act upon it and monitor it. The interpretations are updated each year but the Ends Statements themselves change less frequently. Discussion.

Follow up: Stan and Linda volunteered to refine the documents with Ministers to produce a final that the BOT can adopt and monitor.

Check Out All

Is there a direction you would like to see the BOT take in future?

Extinguishing Chalice and Closing Words

9:15

Business for February

We will address the following at our February meeting:

1. Vendor Policy
2. Feedback Policy
3. Review Covenants and Agreements (in Board Binder Online)

Submitted By: Carrie Kotcho, Secretary

