

UUCM BOARD of TRUSTEES MEETING JUNE 13, 2017

In attendance were Reverends Justin Osterman and Judy Tomlinson, President Mike Mernin, Vice President Sue Raufer, Secretary Sheila Eby and Trustees Doug Andrews, Dottie Hiebing, Steven Mintz, Mary Moriarty, Steve Ramshur and Denise Rodgers.

Consent Agenda

Minutes for the board's May 2017 meeting were discussed. Dottie motioned to accept them with amendments. Sue seconded the motion, which was adopted.

President's Report

- Judy's celebration expenses came in \$216.58 over allocation. Per Justin's suggestion, we are charging that sum against the discretionary fund.
- Sue recapped the orientation session for new board members. All members attended and it went well.
- Sue observed that the full board retreat will take place the weekend of September 8 & 9.
- Sue named Laurice Grae-Hauck as an additional representative to the GA.
- Doug organized a large number of thank you notes.
- Becky Doggett's request that we raise the solitary confinement cell for a film was discussed. Questions raised included identifying and gaining appropriate permission from the filmmakers, and understanding what would be filmed. We are prepared to authorize this activity subject to the executive committee obtaining more information.
- Steve R motioned that the congregation sign on to the letter written by the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice urging lawmakers to close NJ youth prisons and redistribute funds to Communities of Care and evidence-based programs. Denise seconded the motion, which passed 7 to 2.
- Steve also moved that the Immigration Task Force of the UULMNJ be authorized to erect from June 26 to July 5 a solitary confinement cell on UUCM premises for the purpose of filming its use. That it be locked when it is not in use and attended (staffed) when it is open. Authorized subsequent to Executive Committee researching further regarding publicity/waivers and liability. Denise seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

Treasurer's Report

- Justin spoke for Dennis, whose report indicated that we are 92% through the fiscal year and only at 88% of income. Though we are \$22K ahead of where we were last year, expenses nonetheless exceed income by \$28K. It's very possible we'll be looking at a deficit.
- We will ask Dennis what kind of outreach makes the most sense in obtaining the needed funds.

Senior Minister's Report

Justin discussed the board's key successes and remaining challenges.

- Among the former were formation of a successful search committee, effective building repairs, formation of a Stewardship Committee and the creation of an organizational chart.
- Among the latter Justin cited a more compelling mission, a more thoughtful ministry model, establishment of a more solid financial footing and more effective hospitality.
- “What is most important is the clarity of mission and the ability to guide people into regular attendance, active involvement and making friends. Helping them grow into leaders. It doesn’t happen accidentally.”

Associate Minister’s Report

- Judy thanked the board and congregation for the “amazing celebration” toward her departure.
- She discussed the possibility of cutting the 9:00 AM RE classes.

Executive Session

- Steve Mintz moved we go into Executive Session. Dottie seconded the motion, and it was adopted.
- Steve Ramshur motioned to end executive session. Sue seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

Task Force Reports

- Communications -- Sheila volunteered to help Denise with the summer Gazette. Sue said she had people willing to staff additional communications tasks.
- Governance -- This group recommended becoming more conversant on the policy board model. They suggested reading *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Ministry* and suggested that perhaps David Pyle could visit us with more information. Jim and Denise will continue on that committee.

Process Observations

Michael has done an excellent job the last three years listening to congregants and other board members.

Steve Ramshur moved to close the meeting and Sue seconded. The meeting ended.