

Present: Trish Schneider, Sandy Duffy, Kathy Lindburg, Jane Dioguardi, Paula Snedeker, Randy Heath, Ann Smith, John Sepples, Rev Tony

Check-In Tony suggested member might share their feelings about serving on the Board, and about *belonging vs fitting in*.

Discussion:

- **Resignation:** Tina Caplan has submitted her resignation from the Board, and she and her family have withdrawn their membership from the church. This is quite a genuine loss to the congregation as a whole on many levels as Tina and her family contribute so much to UU Meriden in such a variety of ways.
- **Clerk** for this meeting only, Kathy L will record notes and Ann S will type and distribute them.
- **Position of Clerk:** due to Kathy L's expressed preference to serve UUM in a capacity other than Clerk, on a motion from Randy H, seconded by Trish S, and passed unanimously by the Board, Paula Snedeker will assume the responsibilities of Clerk and will be relieved of her liaison responsibilities as an At-Large Trustee. On a motion from Trish S, seconded by Sandy D, and passed unanimously by the Board, Kathy L will assume the responsibilities of an At-Large Trustee. Responsibilities of the Clerk include communications of all sorts; signing documents, including financial documents; calling meetings; and many other duties which are spelled out in our By-Laws.
- **Covenant for the Board:** a draft was reviewed and discussed. Sandy D made a motion to accept the draft proposed, John S seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously by the Board. The Covenant will follow these minutes. Note: I didn't have a copy to attach AS 10/21
- **Minutes from September's BoT meeting** were passed unanimously by the Board after a motion from John S which was seconded by Sandy D
- **The position of Vice President** is now vacant, following the resignation of Tina C. Her resignation and withdrawal from the church will be announce as appropriate. According to our Bylaws, we have two (2) months to fill the position by congregational vote, or to vote as a congregation to allow the position to remain unfilled until a highly qualified candidate is identified and agrees to run for the position. Reverend Tony suggested that this might be good time to demonstrate a willingness to reduce our reliance on those members who typically carry a disproportionate amount of responsibility, and to draw upon other talent within the congregation. This idea met with general approval.
- **Governance and Ministry:** Tony explained the difference between Governance and Ministry. Governance relates to bylaws, policies, finances, and the physical plant. Ministry relates to staff, volunteers, worship, education, pastoral care, social justice, outreach, and administration. Tony stressed that the BoT should be doing only governance work, not ministerial work which is the responsibilities of others.
- **Consent Agenda:** the concept was discussed and will be discussed further at the next BoT meeting. Briefly, the idea is that all items of routine general business which need the Board's approval at their monthly meetings would be submitted well ahead of the meeting, reviewed by each member, and discussed on-line, so that at the BoT meeting, the entire package could be

approved at once, saving a considerable amount of time which could be better spent on issues other than committee reports and the like.

- **Complaints and conflicts:** we need to have a policy for dealing with complaints and conflicts
- **Rental policy** needs to be updated. It was suggested that the Property Committee try to review the current Rental Agreement policy before the next BoT meeting, and offer some suggestions and guidance for improvements.
- **Bridal market** perhaps we should consider aiming for a greater presence within the lucrative bridal market, as we consider our rental policies
- **Incorporation** Trish has researched the procedure for incorporating with the State of CT, and some of the advantages were mentioned very briefly. We will consider this further.
- **Joint meeting with MUUS here on 10/30/19.** Reverend Tony will be coming in costume and he encouraged others to come in costume as well. He will provide some refreshments.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Sandy D moved and Ann S seconded that we accept the Treasurer's Report, and it was approved unanimously by the Board.
- **Faith Duffy fund:** Sandy D reported a balance of ~\$2,700 so far.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm after closing words by Rev. Tony

Everyone was reminded again to try to attend the joint BoT meeting to be held with the Board of MUUS at UUM on Wednesday, October 30, 2019. We will provide refreshments, and should try to coordinate on line what we're bringing.