



Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2020

Present (via Zoom): Jane Dioguardi, Sandy Duffy, Kathleen Lindberg, Trish Schneider, John Sepples, Paula Snedeker

Absent: Randy Heath, Rev. Tony Lorenzen (on vacation)

1. Chalice Lighting and Check-in: Jane lit the chalice, and Board members checked in with each other. John volunteered to be the timekeeper.
2. Renewing our Covenant: Jane read the BOT covenant.
3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Acceptance of previous BOT meeting minutes from June 16, 2020
 - b. Social Justice Committee Report – 7/14/2020
 - c. Minister's Report – 6/16/2020
 - d. Minister's Report – 7/19/2020

John moved to accept the consent agenda items and Paula seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report and Financials (June): Trish reviewed the Treasurer's report. Net Operating Income was negative for June. Trish clarified that the Minister's Discretionary Fund is not a line item in the budget, allowing people to contribute what they can without affecting other line items. Our endowment took a hit but has gone back up. We have used all the money in the Sanctuary Fund. We are still using the PPP loan and will look to convert into a grant later in the year.

Paula made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Financials; Kathleen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Stewardship: The most important thing right now is to find someone to run stewardship this year. A couple of people haven't pledged yet – Jane asked for their names and numbers and will contact them. Who should follow up with new members?
6. Administrative position: Discussed the possibility of having a shared position with MUUS but the bottom line is we can't afford it. We can keep the current position through September and pay with the PPP loan. Meanwhile we will need volunteers willing to take on some clerical functions (MUUS uses volunteers). Trish is maintaining Servant Keeper right now. John suggested we go through the AA job description and see what can be assigned to various people; he offered to help with social media (Trish will arrange for access and they will talk offline). Trish has started training Anita Sanders on website piece. Right now the office AA is doing the resource page and weekly update.
7. Sunday worship: Worship is switching to prerecorded; Jeff and Tony have the streaming software to put all of the pieces together. Still no greeters or coffee hosts (Cassandra Harduby has expressed interest but needs direction); need list of people willing to greet and/or host. Trish and/or Jane will talk to membership committee about compiling a list. Can we do a joint coffee hour with MUUS a couple of times per month? Break-out rooms require a higher tier from Zoom –

MUUS might have. Discussed outdoor worship, maybe in September to give the Worship Committee enough time for planning.

8. Fundraising: The tag sale did well, bringing in approximately \$2355. Trish noted that the Board needs to send a thank-you note to Diane Szymaszek for coordinating; Kathleen offered to do this. The first thing to consider for the online auction is how to handle the mechanical part. Trish said that the software isn't really expensive. But we need to find someone willing to run with it. Other fundraising ideas: Jane suggested creating a cookbook, using software to self-publish and then sell on Amazon. Trish is working with Rev. Tony and Diane on donation-based concerts. We are very likely not having a holiday fair in December but Donna had an idea to sell cookies online with curbside pick-up. Trish will bring up for discussion in the next fundraising meeting. Jane will talk to Donna about the auction and cookie sale.
9. General Assembly: Jane expressed disappointment at having to attend virtually. Anita is having a meeting on July 22nd to discuss actions asked of congregations at GA.
10. Reminder of next Meeting: Tuesday, August 4th at 7 PM via Zoom.
11. Closing words and chalice extinguish: Paula made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Trish seconded. Motion was approved unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula A. Snedeker