



## Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden

### Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

December 15, 2020

Present (via Zoom): Jane Dioguardi, Sandy Duffy, Randy Heath, Kathleen Lindberg, Rev. Tony Lorenzen, Trish Schneider, John Sepples, Paula Snedeker

Absent: N/A

1. Chalice Lighting and Check-in: Jane lit the chalice, and board members checked in with each other.

2. Consent Agenda:

- Acceptance of previous meeting minutes from November 17, 2020

Trish moved to accept the consent agenda item and Kathleen seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Launchpad: The expenses should be manageable (\$500 for website creation, \$15/hour for management), especially since we have a limited pool of volunteers who can assist with social media. If we also want Launchpad to do our weekly newsletter, we have to find material and designate a UUCM point person to make sure it's submitted in a timely fashion. Jane will contact Fred Holland to schedule a meeting.

4. Social Media Responsibilities: Trish and John will meet with Steven Nahas in January to reevaluate who does what.

5. Treasurer's Report & Financials for November 2020:

Monthly Net Operating income for November = \$16.88. Collection Plate income increased; Social Justice Fund = \$248.58. Cash reserves should equal three to six months of expenses; three months for UUCM is \$25,000. Funds available in a pinch equal only \$9709.15. We are holding our own but just barely. Need to build up cash reserves.

Sandy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and November Financials; John seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Legacy Gift Policy Review: Discussed under what conditions to accept large gifts (i.e., do they fit into our mission?). Will need to create an ad hoc Legacy Committee that will meet at the time that someone gives us a gift. Securities can be sold and reinvested where we see fit. To be discussed further and fine-tuned.
7. Stewardship Responsibilities & Recruitment: Need to plan now for the spring; Jane will prepare communication/letter from BOT president. Rev. Tony shared a new way of giving, centered around givers, that was discussed in a ministers' group: monthly giving, no pledging, more like a dues system, so people start to think about it differently. Trish noted it's a four-year program that takes time to implement, so the new stewardship team should formulate at least a two-year plan.
8. Facilities:
  - Roof leak: Is the discoloration on tiles in RE room getting worse? Randy will look at quotes from last spring (around \$20,000) for further review.

- Furnace: Does damper motor need to be replaced? Temporary fix in place but concern about cold air coming in under the kitchen where plumbing is. Randy will contact Roman Oil.
  - Request to park camper: Insurance company (Church Mutual) recommends we seek legal counsel re: liability. A covenant can outline responsibilities and limitations on both sides but wouldn't cover all legalities. Propane heating would be a risk. Sandy made a motion to create a covenant with the camper owner; Randy seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Trish suggested reaching out to another congregation re: legal resources. Team for covenant will be Jane, Sandy, and Randy.
  - Health Dept. Inspection: Sandy will contact Ann Smith to request a deep cleaning of kitchen. Paperwork and payment are due by end of the year, and then the inspection will be scheduled.
9. Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom. Topic will be membership requirements: What's the covenant between the congregation and its members? Jane, Trish, and John will work on notes from previous discussion held on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.
10. Closing words and chalice extinguishing: Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula A. Snedeker