



Unitarian Universalist Church in Meriden

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2021

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 April 20, 2021
 - Minister's Report – May 18, 2021

John requested discussion on the Minister's Report re: election of board members. The only two current members returning are Trish and Randy (who will need to be re-elected). We need to try a new leadership model/structure and devote the next year to holding services/events and raising funds. Being on the board doesn't mean "doing it all" but reaching out to other people to take on tasks and organizing their efforts. Need to find one or two people to join Trish and Randy on an executive team. This team will take on the role of communication (i.e., newsletter) and handle the basics: keep the bills paid and make sure people stay connected, just for the next year. Jane is willing to step in and do some administrative work. We'll need executive team notes, notes of monthly congregational meetings, notice of annual meeting and special meetings, and some tasks of administrative assistant (i.e., helping with newsletter). Jane will compile a list of tasks that we need to collaborate on to get things done and have it ready for the picnic on May 22nd.

After discussion, Kathleen moved to accept the consent agenda items and Randy seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report & Financials for April 2021:

As predicted, income for April was lower than expenses, resulting in a YTD deficit of -\$6,929.72 as of April 30th. Cash flow will be tight through June. We did better than expected on plate collections and utilities were lower than anticipated. Sandy expressed concern that we will end the year with a deficit. Trish will check with accountant to see how the removal of the PPP loan from the Balance Sheet and its addition to income on the Profit & Loss might affect the deficit. Unrestricted reserve funds that may be used in case of cash flow issues are the General Fund (balance = \$6,676) and the Stop & Shop Fundraising (balance = \$1,039.50).

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

Discussion continued with the topic of the budget for FY 2021-2022, which is running a deficit at this point. Items in faith formation were cut and the salary for child care was decreased. The problem is income, not expense, although we do still need to finish the pledge drive. Out of 55 possible pledging families, we have received 24 pledges so far and are just shy of \$50,000. Discussed using endowment funds as a last resort; acceptable to use for new roof but not for everyday expenses. Decided to hold congregational budget hearing on Tuesday June 1st at 7 PM, in person with an ice cream social, and a Zoom option.

4. Barbecue Event on May 22nd: Randy will bring the grill and will shop for food items. Trish, Jane, and Kathleen will put the shopping list together tomorrow (May 19th). Need people to set up around 11 AM.
5. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom (June 1st we will hold budget hearing).
6. Closing words and chalice extinguishing: Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula A. Snedeker