

**West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, May 26, 2022, 6:30-9 p.m.
Motions and Minutes
Approved Tuesday June 21, 2022 6:45 p.m.**

Present

TRUSTEES:

Lois Riemer
Suzanne Rusnak
Dave Willett
Sarah Soper
Liz Nolan
Brian Gardner
David Drickhamer
Kathy Kosiorek

Newly elected member:

Mark Aulisio

Finance Chair:

Jen Wynn

Staff:

Rev. Anthony Makar
Suehana Kieres
Meghan Ross

MOTIONS:

Motion to accept minutes for April 27 BOT meeting with edits from Suehana Kieres and Jen Wynn made by Lois, seconded by Liz - all in favor, none opposed

Motion to accept \$10,000 Designated Gift from Judy Stryffler for R-191 Building Maintenance made by Dave Willet, Dave Drickhamer seconds - all in favor, none opposed

MINUTES:

1. Chalice Lighting, Brian Gardner
2. Reading from: Book of Awakenings - Being Sad, Brian Gardner
3. April meeting minutes, Sarah Soper

Motion to accept minutes for April 27 BOT meeting with edits from Suehana Kieres and Jen Wynn made by Lois, seconded by Liz - all in favor, none opposed

4. Welcome to new members, from Brian and current BOT - Mark Aulisio (present), Dierre Cody, Cathy Bollin
5. RE Report, Meghan Ross
 - Transitional programming, Flower Communion + Age of Reason + Bridging June 12
 - Gardening based program 6-12 starting late June
 - Pride Day June 5
 - Membership going well, planned New Member Sunday in June
 - Diane is doing training in August w/ office and other volunteers, including active shooter training
 - Youth Group continuing, Urban Hope volunteering planned for next month
 - All-ages Game Night went well, will continue as long as there is interest
 - How can BOT help? Variation of project Check-in planned for late summer/early fall and leading teams would be helpful - personal invites from BOT members (not firm yet on who will lead project)
6. Finance Report, Jen Wynn with Suehana Kieres
 - **Motion to accept \$10,000 Designated Gift from Judy Stryffler for R-191 Building Maintenance made by Dave Willet, Dave Drickhamer seconds -**
 - Discussion: increases planned for Buildings and Grounds, would this gift supplement the budget line item there? Ans: not necessarily, planning to hold in reserve tentatively - budget planned currently reflects true costs
 - **Vote: All in favor, none opposed**
 - Dashboard
 - Current expectation for FY23 pledge drive is 602k with current pledges received as of 5-26 plus those pledgers that remain the same, another 14k unlikely to be renewed
 - Follow-up on nonpayment of FY22 pledges, will be making pastoral care/engagement focused calls with included inquiry about planned payment
 - Concern is for ongoing solvency of budget regarding post-PPP loan monies availability
 - Employee Retention Credit has been issued, but will not be available yet for disbursement
 - How will we use this money? For covering expenses in budget
 - Recovery Fund notion: why do we have deficit in annual budget? To invest in building, congregation, staff to rebuild after pandemic - concern is for longevity of budget, for getting engagement around budget
 - Jen provided an assessment to demonstrate that for the FY 23-24 budget, the PPP/recovery funds will be depleted. Based on this assessment, there is a projected \$77,000 increase in revenue from the proposed budget for FY 22-23

that will need to come from pledges or other sources of new revenue to address a deficit budget. The point is to demonstrate the need for a sustainable pledge and/or stewardship/fundraising strategy that will allow us to fund a sustainable budget

- Strengths and rebuilding connections to church - need some actionable steps/strategies - stewardship team has that responsibility, need to support them
- Annual meeting containing annual report with budget - when did we discontinue including written, hard-copy report? Last year of Wayne and Kathleen's tenure? Need to reinstitute this!
- Board representation on appropriate taskforces to help with reengagement

7. CCC Report

- Startup advisory committee in a few days
- New director hired and working

8. Sr. Minister Report

- Rocky River churches - liturgy from Good Soil Lutheran Ministries, adapted for vigil service
- Braver Angels initiative
- Liz Nolan: need to reengage groups (planned for upcoming program year); return to putting on Connection Fair

9. Governance Committee Report

- Replacing Gary on Governance Committee (make changes at policy level, bylaws changes)
- Secretary - David Drickhamer
- Board VP - will need to consider possibilities among eligible BOT members
- Nominations?

Brian: Quorum requirements fixed at 30% - last year's attempt was not successful and have been out of compliance with bylaws re: Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair; relevant for upcoming 8th principle vote and most recently minister emeritus; relevant for changing mission of West Shore

- Promoting a lot further ahead of time
- Differentiating 30% requirement from major vs. less major issues - need to change this
- Want to share example of BOT packet distributed to the membership before Annual Meeting

10. Thoughts on the Annual Meeting

- Lois: Board proposes agenda, not done at April meeting; parliamentarian should have been on the Governance Committee; open discussion was available streaming. Quorum: technical issues with voting may have prevented voting by membership.
- Gary wanted to discuss deleting video (hasn't been standard practice, have minutes instead)

- Kathy: Offer multiple modes of engagement, reminders - needs to be adherence to formality of bylaws, done precisely to eliminate confusion;
- Suzanne Rusnak: discussed something we didn't vote on - problematic; poorly organized and not clear about when we were starting

Takeaways for the future/Strategies: mail proxy votes, reminders, no break between service and keep it short

Board liaison to staff, also board liaison re: meeting planning

11. Closing Reading song for upcoming worship service: Hymn #146 from hymnal