

**West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**BOARD MINUTES 8 - 27 - 2020**  
**Approved 9-24-2020**  
**6:30 pm - via Zoom**

**TRUSTEES:**

Daniel Ang  
Gary Kustis  
Sarah Soper  
Carolyn Brown  
Karen Auer  
Lois Riemer  
Gary Nemes  
Brian Gardner  
Liz Nolan  
Joe Schafer - ex officio

**STAFF:**

Meghan Ross-Boggess  
Rev. Anthony Makar  
Suehana Kieres

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Jen Wynn

Reading: posted on Daniel's FB page - in light of Jacob Blake  
Doc Rivers well-known coach: "it's amazing to me why we keep loving this country when this country does not love us back."

This is our backdrop for our work plus the pandemic - we live in heavy times.

- 1) **Motion to approve consent agenda with no changes - Liz motions, Karen seconds - all in favor, none opposed**
  
- 2) Keeping same time with last Thursday of month meetings 6:30  
Nov. meeting on Dec. 3 instead (as is traditional, recess aka no meeting in Dec.)
  
- 3) Facility opening:  
**Motion to reopen church facilities to small groups gathering made by Lois, seconded by Liz**  
Discussion:
  - Issues in support of opening: people miss their church home, practical considerations, larger spaces available than in people's homes

- Issues against: variations in risk acceptability, no clear metrics yet (locally stabilizing new cases - not uniform across areas; what about other measures?)
  - 1) Well-being and safety of our church staff including Child Care Center staff
  - 2) Clients of Child Care Center- the chain of effect if/when a COVID infection is linked to our facilities. Considering if an infection would happen, we would have to shut down the Child Care Center. Not only will the income of our staff be affected, it'll definitely put a severe disruption in the lives of those who depend on our child care center.
  - 3) Members- Average age of our members puts a majority of us in the high risk population
  - 4) Accessibility- if groups move to a physical meeting at church, then how do we ensure that those who are reticent or are uncomfortable with face to face meetings are included? Not clear on responsibility of who would ensure accessibility: members of groups vs. church, nor resources for accessibility
  - 5) Current community spread data and near future projections- We pushed the reconsideration of the opening to October because we wanted to see what school's reopening would do to infection rates within our community.

### **All opposed to motion**

**Motion made by Daniel and seconded by Brian to postpone until October decision to open building - All In favor none opposed**

- 4) Senior minister's report
  - question: once per month coverage going forward for guest speaker to keep senior minister from burning out, soliciting suggestions from worship associates
  - Council system implementation in the next few months
  - Upcoming events: Water communion - drive-thru, bubble communion, rainbow arch, water blessing - Sept 12 3-4:30 pm - need volunteer sign-holders, setup/takedown help
- 5) Finance Committee update -
  - **Motion: request to accept \$10k restricted gift from Judy Stryffler - Daniel motions, Karen seconds; all in favor, motion passes**
  - Unrestricted assets up due to PPP loan
  - Pooled endowment up because of market uptick, will be contacting PNC investment advisor to look into shifting to more fixed income investments
  - R (with restrictions) and D (designated) accounts (off budget) for groups, for donors with specific purposed monies, Finance Committee with

Suehana is working on staying accountable and segregating balances for each account

- 6) Board liaisons throughout church - slotted into Ministry Areas in the near future, meeting quarterly (3-4x/year) -
  - From Rev. Anthony/Renee conversation: how do we get this started? Might be confusing for congregants
  - non-Board ministry associates to fill roles, but Board members can be observers/be in conversation
  - Will try to make this happen based on availability
  
- 7) Debrief about Peace Circle  
Disheartening at the end
  - **Motion: to turn over planning of Q&A to Renee, event will take place Sept. 3 6:30 pm, with help from Brian, Liz, Sarah - Daniel motions, Liz seconds, all in favor**

Meeting concludes 8:57 pm