

**West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, 6:30-9:00 p.m.**  
**Motions and Minutes**  
**Approved Feb. 23, 2023, 6:40 p.m.**

**TRUSTEES**

- Mark Aulisio
- Cathy Bollin (Vice President)
- David Drickhamer (Secretary)
- Brian Gardner (President)
- Kathy Kosiorek
- Gary Kustis (Past President)
- Liz Nolan
- Suzanne Rusnak
- *Dave Willett - absent*
- Jen Wynn (Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair)

**STAFF**

- Suehana Kieres
- Rev. Anthony Makar
- Meghan Ross

Refreshments graciously provided by Suzanne Rusnak.

**MINUTES**

1. **Chalice Lighting and Opening Reading** - Suzanne Rusnak  
When I was a child and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' - Mr. Rogers.
  
2. **Approval of Minutes** - David Drickhamer  
  
**Typos fixed. Motion to approve November BOT minutes. Motion made by Cathy, seconded by Liz. All in favor, none opposed.**
  
3. **Book Discussion ("Wait Is This Racist?" by Kerry Connelly)** - Brian Gardner
  - Split into 4 groups of 3 for in-depth discussion
  - Sharing of perceptions, perspectives, and experiences on power, leadership, and diversity in general, locally and within our church.

**BREAK**

#### 4. Annual Meeting Updates and Planning - Brian Gardner

- Our annual meeting has to be in April or May per the church bylaws. We considered May 21st at the previous meeting.

**Motion that we schedule our annual meeting on Sunday May 21st, after the service. Motioned by Brian Gardner, seconded by Cathy Bollin.**

Discussion: Does it have to be a Sunday? We still need to maximize attendance so we can hit a 30% quorum, which will be needed for some of the postponed items on the agenda. How do we keep people at church for the meeting? We need to be mindful of terms of bylaws, and maintain a formal tone.

**Vote: All in favor, none opposed.**

- Annual meeting planning committee volunteers: Cathy Bollin, Kathy Kosiorek, Suzanne Rusnak (point person), Mark Aulisio and Meghan Ross.
- We need a “functioning” governance committee before the annual meeting. Current members are: Brian Gardner, Kathy Kosiorek, Gary Kustis. Other volunteers or nominees? Review of the bylaws and policies requirements.
- Topics of interest that need to be refined in preparation:
  - Some items in the church bylaws require a 30% quorum to be modified/updated. Consider changing the quorum to 20% in some cases, as well as setting ballot policies.
  - Another area of focus is adjusting the role of the treasurer.
  - Consideration of tying pledging to membership.
  - Evaluating membership roster for members who should be removed to allow the quorum to be calculated on an accurate membership count.

#### 5. RE Report Highlights - Meghan Ross

- Family Christmas Eve service went very well.
- Mystery Friends started this past Sunday, one of our best inter-gen activities.
- Mini-youth conference is in the works for the weekend of April 1.
- Also in the works is a potential service trip to DC with youth from other UU congregations.

#### 6. Financial Report - Jen Wynn

- **Liz Nolan moves that we accept the R-025 Solar Project donation from Tom Smith. Brian Gardner seconds. All in favor, none opposed.**
- Highlight: Service Auction budget was \$35,000, so far we have received \$37,000. That could go up to a \$43,000 including all pending invoices.
- Review of Independent Accountant’s Review: Overview and review of footnotes. **Brian Gardner moves to accept the June 30, 2022 “reviewed” financial statements from Hilary Beatrez, CPA, Suzanne Rusnak seconds. All in favor, none opposed.**

#### 7. Senior Minister Report - Rev. Anthony Makar

- Next Steps Weekend - Stewardship Consultation (this is like an annual checkup for stewardship). The last one the church did was 17 years ago. Consultants will get to know us from a variety of perspectives.
- Board participation is requested:
  - Friday, Feb 24th, 7-8:30 pm. Board members' presence requested.
  - Saturday, Feb 25th, 1-2:00 pm. Board members working lunch.
  - Sunday, Feb 26th, Following the service and Open Forum, final meeting with the board.
- City Electric has started the sanctuary bulb replacement project!
- In early February we will be working with someone to figure out how to use the chancel screen more fully in our worship services.

#### **8. Road Ahead and Follow-up Actions - BOT**

- Reading chapters 3 and 4 of "Wait Is This Racist"
- Governance committee will be meeting.
- Congregational Survey is taking place this weekend. We are looking for candidates to fill open the position on the board for the remainder of this year.
- Communication with Dan Hotchkiss to provide consultation to the board and the board leaders.
- Respectful request for board president to ask for help to both spread the workload and prepare future BOT leaders. More hands and heads make a task easier.
- Request to include the perpetual calendar on the agenda every month so we are aware of annual BOT tasks and responsibilities.

#### **9. Closing Reading & Extinguishing the Chalice - Kathy Kosiorek**

- With What Benediction Shall I Leave You? - Mark Mosher DeWolfe

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: February 23rd, 2023**