

West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023, 6:30-8:50 p.m.
Motions and Minutes
Approved March 23, 2023

TRUSTEES

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

STAFF

- *Suehana Kieres - absent*
- Rev. Anthony Makar
- *Meghan Ross - absent*

Refreshments graciously provided by Dave Willett.

MINUTES

1. **Chalice Lighting and Opening Reading** - Brian Gardner
Hymn 298, Wake Now, My Senses (v 4).
2. **Approval of Minutes** - David Drickhamer
One clarification.
Motion to approve January BOT minutes. Motion made by Suzanne, seconded by Brian. All in favor, none opposed.

General Discussion

- Larry Wise introduction to BOT, new member of the finance committee
 - Discussion of service disruption, response and follow-up work.
3. **Book Discussion (“Wait Is This Racist?” by Kerry Connelly)** - Brian Gardner
 - Small groups

- If someone experiences racism and harm during their engagement with a small group at West Shore, is there a clear policy for what that person can do?
 - Is our CARE Covenant sufficient for helping congregants reconcile and grow after harm has occurred through racist words or actions? Do we have enough experience and understanding to know the answer to that question?
- Music
 - How do you feel about West Shore's approach to music and what might be some of the challenges of changing or expanding our approach to music?
 - What might be some ways music could help us continue moving forward as a justice-oriented church?
- Observations
 - Need a more clear and actionable process for addressing issues as they arise, racist and other issues
 - Is there anything else anyone would like to add about this discussion?

4. Annual Meeting Updates and Planning - Brian Gardner, Suzanne Rusnak

- Event Planning
 - Will be held in Baker Hall
 - Food will be served - Pizza and cookies and desserts
 - Will need to arrange childcare for parents
 - Start the meeting quickly after the service so more people stay engaged
 - Livestream with a dry run of setup so there are no broadcast issues
- Congregants have until the next board meeting to put forward any issues they would like to have addressed and possibly voted on at the annual meeting.

BREAK

5. RE Report Highlights - Meghan Ross (absent)

- Reviewed written report.

6. Financial Report - Jen Wynn

- Appreciation for FaCT (R-110), a General Operating Grant in the amount of \$4,000 from an anonymous donor for expenses related to the 2023 EarthFest Event.
- Designated gift to R-060 Organ Project

Motion to accept the designated gift of \$5,000 for the organ project for tubular chimes made by Kathy Kosiorek, seconded by Cathy Bollin.
All in favor, none opposed.
- **New Playground Fence Discussion.** Questions: How much should come from the child care center budget, and how much out of the church budget? And which source? Four potential sources: Employee Retention credit, Child Care Center

Fund (from PPP), Unused Portion of D-180 Bliss Bequest that was previously designated by the Board for the Sound System project, and/or the D-170 Recovery Fund.

- Question about environmental impact/message of PVC/vinyl fence. Board requested further research and reporting by Building and Grounds committee.
- **Motion to approve redesignation of the remainder of the D-180 Bliss bequest (\$18,694.30) for the playground fence replacement. Motion made by Brian Gardner, seconded by Suzanne. All in favor, none opposed.**
- **Motion to accept the Advisory Services Report from Beatrez and Company CPAs dated January 17, 2023 made by Suzanne Rusnak, seconded by Kathy Kosiorek. All in favor, none opposed.**

7. Senior Minister Report - Rev. Anthony Makar (See highlights)

- A Pledge Drive team representative will join the March BOT meeting.
- Still looking for BOT member to help take the West Shore Justice Visioning Taskforce Report (WS JVTF) and recommendations to the congregation.
- “Drag Queen Bingo” coming May 12 (new fundraiser)

8. Governance Committee

- Policy Change proposal
- Summary: The proposed changes allow us to strive for the appropriate representation on the Governance committee.
- **Motion that we adopt the amended 1.3.2.1. Governance Committee Structure by Brian, Seconded by Cathy Bollin. All in favor, none opposed.**

9. Road Ahead, Follow-up Actions, Additional Topics - Board of Trustees

- Dan Hotchkiss - Brian is coordinating BOT meeting with him on a Thursday night in the next few weeks (specific day TBD)

10. Closing Reading & Extinguishing the Chalice - Suzanne Rusnak

- Chant for the Seasons (Hymn #73) from gray hymnal

NEXT BOARD MEETING: March 23, 2023

***Wait, Is This Racist?* Please read Chapters 5 and 6**

Refreshments: Suehana Kieres

Opening Reading: Meghan Ross

Closing Reading

PERPETUAL CALENDAR: March-April

March

NC – Announces candidates for the Board and the Nominating Committee if the Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 16 to May 15

BOT – Regular monthly meeting:

- Considers any member requests regarding the Annual Meeting agenda
- Establishes the Annual Meeting agenda if this meeting is the last Board meeting before the Annual Meeting

April

NC – Announces candidates for the Board and the Nominating Committee if the Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 16 to 31

FC – Provides to the Board a report on the results of an annual financial review or audit

FC – Provides quarterly financial statements to the Board

BOT – Regular monthly meeting – establishes the Annual Meeting agenda if this meeting is the last Board meeting before the Annual Meeting

BOT: Board of Trustees

FC: Finance Committee

NC: Nominating Committee