

February 5, 2015

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at Unitarian House on February 5 with the following trustees present: Liz Dell, President; Greg Blackman, Vice President; Jane Schwarz, Clerk; Sonia Reed; Jay Poliziani.

I. Gathering

Ms. Dell called the meeting to order at about 7:05 PM and shared words for the chalice lighting. There was a quorum.

Minutes from previous meeting: January 6 minutes approved .

Financial report: Please see attached report. One of our CD's comes due in February.

Minister's report: Please see attached report.

Clerk's report: There are 78 members. One new member joined.

Denominational Affairs: Attached report discussed.

Consent agenda approved.

II Business

Covenant Renewal Process: Policy draft reviewed. It is not clear what training would be required for someone on the Right Relations Team. Some adjustments were made to the policy draft. The committee on ministry is probably better equipped than the board to determine which trainings would be required.

Vote on whether to accept policy with the changes made. The policy starts with the line Covenant Renewal Process Policy.

Motion to adopt covenant renewal process policy as amended made by Jay Poliziani. Seconded by John Luff. Motion passed.

Communication task force: Importance of board information being available to the congregation. Also, agenda and meeting schedule be available to the congregation. This includes being on the bulletin board.

The board also discussed financial information being communicated more than once a year to the congregation. It could be recorded quarterly. Congregants being more aware of our financial situation might encourage more giving.

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Discussion: Can executive sessions be published? They are designed for private matters, and if they are published why have an executive session?

Mr. Luff moved that the board adopt the policy for Board of Trustees Communication with the Congregation as amended. Mr. Blackman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Budget Process FY 2016: Mr. Luff will get information from committees regarding how much money they need for the year over the next couple of weeks. Their responses will be due in mid-March, and the Board will then spend time during the April meeting deciding on the budget. Mr. Luff is able to create the hard data of the budget. Someone else can then present a program budget based on that.

District assembly is coming up in March. Ms. Dell and probably Mark Tomlinson are planning on attending.

The cluster board is having a meeting next Sunday.

Rainbow Circles: Jane Dirks to come to board meeting in March to speak about circles. We need to be clear about the purpose of the circles. What is the board's role? The board did not initiate circles, and probably should not be deciding whether to keep them or not. We can give a recommendation.

Annual Meeting: By-law changes are voted on at the annual meeting, so they need to be discussed prior to the meeting. Ms. Dell would like to change the by-laws to allow the board to do business via conference call.

Elections for new board members will also come up at the annual meeting, as well as new members for the Endowment Committee.

III Adjournment

Ms. Dell adjourned the meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 5 at 7:00 PM.