

**March 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 March 5 with the following trustees present: Liz Dell, President; Greg Blackman, Vice President; Jane Schwarz, Clerk; Mark Tomlinson, Sonia Reed; Rev. David McFarland.

### I. Gathering

Ms. Dell called the meeting to order at about 7:15 PM and shared words for the chalice lighting.

**Minutes from previous meeting:** February 5 minutes not available to approve .

**Financial report:** Please see attached report.

**Minister's report:** Please see attached report.

**Clerk's report:** No changes, we still have 76 members.

**Denominational Affairs:** Attached report discussed.

Consent agenda approved.

### II Business

**Circles discussion:** Consider whether the structure works. Who would be willing or able to lead? Emphasis was on the tasks and not on the fellowship. Is there energy for rethinking how it works. What are the needs of the Church? How do we help people to connect? Should we work on it and start again in September? We can figure out how to cover refreshments for a short period of time. Reconfigure how it works. Set clear expectations. If we want to make it a small group ministry, there needs to be a group of people to take it on. Easter Sunday Brunch to discuss what people think about the Circles, and what would it look like? Could we hand people something to fill out about what they think about circles? Ms. Dirks said that she is willing to generate some questions to be distributed to board members to look at.

**STP and UUPLAN/PIIN:** Should we have UUPLAN as a share the plate option? It was suggested that we should probably only do this with one permanent program a year. Whatever is collected will include dues plus some extra money. We will set UUPLAN as the option for May/June.

**Welcoming Congregation Renewal:** Originally we became a welcoming congregation in 2007. They recommend it be renewed every five years. Mr. Tomlinson will look into the renewal process, particularly whether there needs to be a congregational vote.

**Communication task force:** Met by e-mail . A mailchimp mock up of what the new Advocate would look like was sent around to task force members.

**Founders Hall Acoustics Update:** A letter was sent to membership requesting donations. We have already raised about \$1700.

**Stewardship Update:** Planning a commitment Sunday for May 31 which is the same day as the annual meeting. There will be a spaghetti dinner separate from stewardship.

**Nominating Committee:** Mr. Poliziani has begun asking current trustees if they plan to continue on.

**Annual Meeting:** There was some discussion of what will be on the agenda. By-law changes, circles were discussed. A packet needs to go out to the membership a month before the meeting.

### **III Adjournment**

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 2 at 7:00 PM.