

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting June 11,2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held with the following Trustees in attendance: Liz Dell, John Luff, Eric Meisberger, Greg Blackman, Jay Poliziani and Sonia Reed (via phone).

Excused: Mary Jo Sonnetag; Guests: Mark Tomlinson and Jane Schwarz, out-going Trustees.

Ex officio: Rev. David McFarland.

A quorum was present at the call to order.

Opening Words: Liz Dell

Assent Agenda: Greg moved to approve as submitted* John seconded * motion carried

Welcome New Board members: Eric Meisberger present and Mary Jo Sonntag absent

Farewell to exiting Board members: Mark Tomlinson and Jane Schwarz

2015–16 Officers of the BOT elections: Liz and Greg agreed to be nominated to stay on as President and Vice President of the Board for one more year. The BOT voted to approve the slate of Liz Dell as President and Greg Blackman as Vice President.

John Luff was appointed by the BOT as the Treasurer. Donald Zeilman was appointed as Clerk to manage all Clerk functions with the exception of taking BOT meeting minutes. Jay Poliziani was appointed as Recording Secretary to take meeting minutes for the BOT. The recording secretary will also be responsible to assure that minutes are sent to the correct people for publishing and to assure that a version of the minutes is ready for publishing on the web (minus Executive session notes).

Greg made a motion to approve John as Treasurer, Zeilman as Clerk and Jay as Recording Secretary, John seconded the motion, motion carried.

Report from the House Committee about the acoustic work in Founders Hall will was delayed until next meeting because of the absence of Charlie Snowden. Liz updated that there are now two bids for the work and both are under the amount expected and the amount raised.

John pointed out that the excess money donated for this project must be used for a capital project. He also noted that we should let those who made donations know that we want to use the excess money for a different capital project and allow for their response. All agreed that this is the best process.

Rev. Dave suggested that the Board look at creating a policy to determine who is and is not a member of the congregation to assure that we are able to have an accurate and agreed upon count of members.

Executive Session (no reason stated)

End of Executive Session

Budget Discussion

General Assembly in 2016 will be held in Columbus and Liz asked that we as a church commit \$250 to the budget to qualify for a matching grant from OMD to send people to GA in 2016.

Rev. Dave asked that in addition to the \$250 requested that we commit to raising additional funds so that additional people can attend GA.

Greg motioned that \$250 be set in the budget so that we can qualify for the match from OMD for GA 2016. Also that the BOT commit to additional fundraising to assure that the \$250 can be covered as well as additional revenue raised for additional people to attend GA. Eric seconded the motion, motion carried.

Greg reported that the Social Justice partner for July/August would be Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN).

Jay motioned that each year Allegheny have three consistent social Justice partners including Northside Common Ministries, PIIN and UU Plan, and three rotating partners. The money raised from collections will cover membership dues to the UU Plan and PIIN. John seconded the motion, motion carried.

Liz asked for a date change of the BOT meetings. The group agreed that the third Thursday of the month would work for all in attendance. Liz will ask Mary Jo if that day works and the change will be made if it works for her as well. Next meeting will July 16th followed by August 20th Both meetings will be held at the Northside Common Ministries.

The 2015 BOT Retreat will be held on Saturday August 29th from 9am to 3pm at Northside Common Ministries.

Liz will be sending out an e-mail to remind the leaders of the various committees of the church to provide information for the coming year for the on-line calendar.

Rev. Dave reported on the Heart-to-Hearts done by PIIN staff with 11 congregants to learn about their feelings related to the church and social justice work. All participants felt favorably about the church at this point.

Rev. Dave explained that Sue from PIIN asked that we consider doing the Heart-to-Hearts on a church-wide basis as soon as possible. For this to work we would need at least 10 people to facilitate the Heart-to-Heart discussions. Training for the BOT related to the Heart-to-Hearts will be at the BOT Retreat if Sue is available.

Liz asked for a BOT member to work with John Engberg regarding the church's renewal process of its status as a Welcoming Congregation. Sonia Reed agreed to discuss what is involved with the process with John Engberg.

Greg motioned to adjourn and Jay seconded, motion carried.

Next Meeting held at NCM on Thursday July 16th at 7pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Poliziani, Recording Secretary
Donald G. Zeilman, Clerk