

Minutes of the Allegheny Board of Trustees meeting, July 16, 2015.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held with the following Trustees in attendance:

Liz Dell, Greg Blackman, Sonia Reed, Jay Poliziani, Mary Jo Sonntag and Eric Meisberger.

Excused: John Luff.

A quorum was present at the call to order.

- Opening: Welcome/Words
- Additions to the Agenda: Liz asked to add a few points – all noted in the minutes.
- Approval of assent agenda: Sonia made a motion to accept the assent agenda with no changes. Mary Jo seconded, motion carried.
- Endowment committee member appointments: Liz explained that there is a need to fill positions for a one-year period on the Endowment Committee. Following the one-year appointment, the Board will be responsible to fill the spots on the committee in July 2016. The positions at that point will be staggered in duration to assure that the team has continual membership.
- Jay made a motion to appoint Betty Luff, Mark Tomlinson and Kate Tomlinson (marketing only) to be appointed to a one-year term on the Allegheny Endowment Committee to begin immediately and ending on June 30, 2016. Greg seconded the motion, motion carried.
- Founders Hall Acoustical Project: Liz reported that Charlie Snowden got two bids for the work. Charlie recommended using AVT at a charge of appx. \$7,300 which is less than we have set aside for the project (\$7,800). Mary Jo made a motion that we approve the contract with AVT to complete the Acoustic work in Founders Hall. Greg seconded, motion carried.
- Installation Celebration: Liz reported that a group of congregants has offered to coordinate a celebration of Rev. Dave's ten-year anniversary as called minister. The group, Jill Brethauer, Ellen Kerr and Kate Tomlinson asked that appx. \$2,000 be available to them to coordinate the event, however they anticipate that the cost will be significantly lower. The group suggested raffle baskets and a free-will offering basket at the event to offset costs. The group also suggested using the event as a marketing opportunity for the Church. Jay made a motion that Allegheny set aside \$2,000 for the celebration of Rev. Dave's 10-year anniversary as our called minister. Sonia seconded the motion, motion carried.
- Communications Policy: Jay asked that the group approve the new *communications-between-congregants-and-the-congregation* policy. The group suggested that the policy be rolled out in September after a community moment. The suggestion was to update the congregation on the work of the Communications Team in a community moment. Eric made a motion to accept the Policy of how congregants and friends can communicate information to the congregation as written. Mary Jo seconded, motion carried.

- Changing our Story: Jay suggested that the Board reach out to a board member from the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills (UUNCH) to learn more about how they “changed their story,” as noted in a recent sermon by John Balance, from a story of conflict with ministers to one of looking towards a positive future. Jay suggested that maybe we could learn something about the benefit of changing our story from one of small church in financial need to one of a visionary church. The group agreed to consider the idea of inviting someone from UUNCH to a future meeting.
- Resignation from church membership: Liz presented a list of five people to be removed from the church role as a result of resignation of membership. Jay made a motion to accept the resignation from church membership of Kelly Homitsky, Josh Feterman, Melissa Dalessandri and David and Colleen Peters. Eric seconded, motion carried.
- Retreat Agenda:
 - a) Add a discussion of a policy to remove people from membership who are not making contributions of record. This was added to the By-Laws over a year ago.
 - b) Add a discussion about the Heart-to-Heart to take place in the fall. Liz will follow up on that topic with Rev. Dave.
- Circle and Small Group Update: The Board discussed how to revive the Circles. The Board agreed that a task force is needed to make recommendations to the Board related to the Circles.
- Little Free Library: Sonia made a motion that Allegheny seek out a “little free library” for placement in front of Unitarian house. Eric seconded the motion, motion carried.
- Greg moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm and Sonia seconded, motion carried

Next meeting will be held at Northside Common Ministries on Thursday, August 20th at 6pm (note time and location change) to allow Board members to join the shelter meal team from Allegheny in serving the shelter meal at 7:30pm.

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