

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Board of Trustees – Minutes October 22, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held with the following Trustees in attendance: Liz Dell, Mary Jo Sonntag, Greg Blackman, Jay Poliziani and Sonya Reed.

Excused: John Luff, Eric Meisberger

Ex officio: Rev. David McFarland.

Guests: Scott Eckes, Ministerial Intern; Shane Freeman.

Congregational Moment: Shane Freeman asked that the Board consider the level of participation the congregation would have in the “Black Lives Matter” movement. “Are we as a church supportive of the organization Black Lives Matter or are we in support of the goal of assuring that black lives matter, but not supportive of the ‘organization’?”

After discussion, the group determined that the Board would recommend that Shane begin ongoing discussions after church related to wider Unitarian Universalist efforts connected with Black Lives Matter. Following this, members would be asked to vote at the mid-year meeting in January on the congregation’s commitment to the UU efforts related to Black Lives Matter. The Board also suggested that Shane look into what actions around this topic are supported by Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network, and try to bring that information to the congregation.

Scott Ekes reviewed the highlights of the job description that he and Rev. Dave drafted for his position at the church. All in attendance agreed that the description was acceptable.

Liz informed the group that the total revenue from the recent movie filming in Unitarian house was \$5300.

The ascent agenda was approved by all.

Cluster assembly is set for Nov 7th at North Hills UU Church. Jay motioned and Greg seconded that we send Sonya and Mary Jo as our delegates to the assembly, motion carried.

The Membership Committee recommended that the Board remove a member from the roles.

Executive Session (to consider the recommendation to remove a member)

Exit Executive Session

Succession Planning

Jay agreed to head the Nominating Committee and recruited Kate Tomlinson and Betty Schwarz to be on the Committee.

Eric, Jay, Greg and John’s terms will all be up this year and Liz will need to step away from the President’s role.

Building Community – To date, Scott has received little feedback related to the Heart-to-Hearts. The plan is that all feedback be to Scott by November 14 to be synthesized for the November 19 meeting and reviewed with congregation November 22. Topics addressed are RE, Worship, Social Justice, Administration and Hospitality.

Rev Dave asked that the Board sign up to provide support for post-worship refreshments in the Emerson Room. Trustees signed up to cover the next four weeks.

Greg proposed that the Share-the-Plate partner for November and December be Northside Common Ministries. All agreed.

Jay motioned to adjourn, Sonya seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Poliziani, Recording Secretary

Donald G. Zeilman, Clerk