

Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Board of Trustees Minutes 7/21/2016

In attendance: Sonia Reed , Greg Blackman, Jay Poliziani, John Luff(on phone), MaryJo Sontag, Kate Tomlinson (Quorum reached)

Excused absence: Liz Dell and Rev Dave

Absent:

Guest:

Chalice lighting

Check in :

Additions to the Agenda: vote for the VP , Put together agenda for the Board Retreat, Update suggestions for conflict resolution

Ascent Agenda approved

Discussion related to the finance report . Greg reported that John explained to him that approximately \$500 in checks intended for June of 2016 would actually appear on the books for July of 2016 because the Books had been closed for the year.

Stewardship update Kate explained that the Stewardship campaign was less successful then in years past. The decrease is approximately \$18,000 when compared to last year. This brings the budget for next year in a deficit for approximately \$24,000. The decrease is partly due to lose of some members but the larger point of concern is that many members pledged less then they did the year before. The group agreed that this situation would be the primary topic of the upcoming BOT retreat. The group will strategize on ways to address the decreased pledges and look for ways that excite people about giving. The group also discussed a recent feeling of general malaze that appears to have zapped enthusiasm in the church. This will also be on the agenda for the BOT retreat.

RE Visioning Greg explained that he, Rev Dave, Janice Parks and Matt Merriman Preston will be meeting again soon to begin a “visioning” process to determine how to progress with plans for the RE program. Greg will be sure to inform all parents with kids in RE of that meeting as well incase they choose to join.

Celebrate Share the Plate We will reach \$25,000 in donated money to partner groups around November. The group agreed that we need to make a big community wide deal of this. This will also be discussed in conjunction with discussions around bringing the church out of a perceived state of malaze and increase in Stewardship donations.

Share the Plate Greg explained that Shane asked if the Share the Plate partner for September/Oct could be Cease Fire PA. The group agreed and scheduled Northside Common Ministries for Nov/Dec, Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network for January/February, Open for Social Justice team to fill for March/April, UU Plan for May/June and Open for Social Justice team to pick for July/August.

Conflict Resolution update MaryJo offered to bring some resources to the retreat to look at focused on conflict resolution between individuals. The group agreed that we would further explore next steps at

the Board retreat. We would discuss benefits of full church workshops as opposed to addressing the problems on a one to one basis.

Music Minister Rev Dave asked via Greg to get the Boards approval to bring Chris Russ on as a once per month paid musician and a volunteer leader of the choir. The group decided that all people who play at our services are music ministers and as such can call themselves a Music Minister at AUUC

Elections Jay motioned that the BOT accept Kate Tomlinson as the Acting Vice President for a six month period and that we vote on filling the position in January 2017. John seconded the motion and all agreed.

Mary Jo motioned to adjourn and John seconded the motion

Next meeting Retreat at NCM 8/27 at 9am