

Board of Trustees for Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church Minutes October 25, 2016th

In attendance: Rev Dave, Greg Blackman, Liz Dell, Sonia Reed, Liz Dell, Kate Tomlinson, Jay Poliziani (quorum reached)

Absent: John Luff and Mary Jo Sontag

Assent Agenda Approved Financial report noted the need for repairs on roof and corrections to the calculations around the Giant Eagle cards. Kate noted that Stewardship did provide year-end financial information. Jay will check with membership before each meeting to update clerks report.

Ministers Report: The group agreed that we should ask Rev. Dave to provide the BOT with a few bullet points each month telling us where and how he represented the congregation in the community, updates on plans for worship services and his sense of the health of the congregation and how we can help with any concerns. A paragraph or a few bullet points is all that is needed.

Busine
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We will be the host congregation for the Cluster Picnic in the summer of 2017. Greg will contact the city to reserve the chapel picnic grove at Riverview Park on a Sunday (1pm) in July or August. AUUC will cover expense of the grove and provide some of the basic food needs. A collection is generally held at the picnic to help offset those costs.

Share the Plate Celebration will culminate with a Solstice concert in the sanctuary on December 18, 2016. The City of Asylum is working with Rev Dave to get performers for the event. Kate offered to help with publicity. The BOT will help with snacks and drinks. The BOT will work with Cameron and other church volunteers to help make felt flags (more long lasting) that celebrate the Share the Plate Partners. The flags will be displayed at the concert. At the November 13th Sunday service we will have a community moment where we announce the concert and the Share the Plate milestone to soon be reached.

Committee
Liaisons

Committee fair was considered to be a success and a model to follow –we will look to schedule similar fairs each year in Aug/Sept and then a second in Feb/March

Membership—Jay will check in with Betty about her request to add members to the committee.

RE- Kate reported that Lisa and Peggy will stay on to help the RE Educator. Cheryl the Educator will teach three weeks a month, seek out curriculum, and attend the monthly meetings. RE for the time being will remain in founders hall.

Stewardship- Kate reported the totals from the years outreach and said there will be a year end drive again in December.

COM- Greg reported a need for at least one new member

Social Justice – Sonia reported that on Dec 11 Shane has arranged through PINN a two part discussion on race. Sonia will confer with Shane to be sure that info gets to news@alleghenyuu.org

Revitalizing a small congregation video the group watched part two of this series together and had a meaningful discussion on the issues we need to address as a congregation.

What is life giving in our church:

- Standing for Justice
 - Music
 - Location (city location)
 - Fellowship hour
 - Sense of community
 - Unstructured activities that lead to personal connections
 - Children in church
 - Small group opportunities
- What is draining?:
- Too many committees
 - Volunteer burnout
 - We are too ambitious
 - Interpersonal conflicts that never get better
 - Fear of change
 - Building expenses
 - Small showing at services

- Transportation to location
- Intransigent members in leadership roles

Process 1. Group Spiritual discernment involving the whole congregation 2. Detachment related to outcomes – follow the increased energy—leave behind what doesn't work 3. Experiment—try things –if they don't work try the next thing 4. Become a learning community – learn more about what's working in other churches and partner agencies and build on partnerships 5. Deal with unproductive conflict - contact Congregational Life Staff for help

Greg will reach out to Renee R. about a possible meeting with interested BOT members about starting the process of revisiting Conflict Resolution workshops and dealing with individual conflicts as well in the church –possibly the same week as she is here for the Cluster meeting.
Sonia motioned to close the meeting and Liz seconded it –all agreed

Next meeting November 22, 2016 at 7 pm at U House.