

First Unitarian Society of Ithaca
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2020

President Andy Turner called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees (BoT) to order at 6:05 pm on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

Trustees Present:

Andy Turner (President), Wendy Salomon (Vice President), Angela Zhang, Matt Hare (Clerk & Scribe), Elton Hall, Kim Wilkinson, Diana Nier, Jennifer Streid-Mullen (ex-officio; Treasurer), Rev. Margaret Weis (ex-officio; minister)

Trustees Absent:

Lyn Staack

A quorum was present being a majority of the full Board (currently eight members).

FUSIT Members & Guests:

None

Handouts:

None

Agenda Item # 1: Opening Reading and Minutes Approval

Kim Wilkinson lit the chalice and read a selection..

MOTION by Diana, second by Wendy to approve the BoT February 11, 2020 meeting minutes shown in Google Docs folder as “2020-02-11 - BoT_Minutes” as of the date and time of this meeting. **PASSED.**

Agenda Item # 2: Upcoming Dates

Date	Event	Comments
03/08	Stewardship lunch	Harry Potter theme, right after service in Annex
03/11...	Lunch Bunch in Parlor	11 noon - 1:30, every second Wednesday
03/15...	Soul Matters Drop In	12:15-1:30 pm on 3rd Sundays, Pedersen Arch rm
03/17...	All Church Night	5:30 potluck, 6 pm team mtgs; 3rd Tuesdays in Parlor

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03/18...	Pub Theology	6:30 pm Liquid State Brewery; 3rd Wednesdays
03/22, 29	Shakespeare Film Grp	3 pm in Pedersen Arch room, through May
03/22	Barbara Kane-Lewis memorial service	1 pm, Sanctuary
04/11	FUSIT Service of Remembrance	First annual
04/19	New Member Welcome	And Earth Day Birthday Celebration

Agenda Item # 3: Unsung Heroes for September 2018

Sharon Costiana & team	Stewardship Harry Potter lunch
Beth Palace	Service as interim outreach coordinator

Agenda Item # 4: Various Topics

Do we need a board minute? - ask Sharon how to help with Stewardship?

- Keep DRE search front and center

Need to fill in the holes in plate count schedule - SEND REMINDER

Agenda Item # 5: Minister Report - Reverend Weis

OWL training for additional grades (K-2, 4-6) scheduled for May

Re-keying doors March 16, working out key numbering system (inside & outside doors)

Hired Viviana today as Membership and Outreach Coordinator

Tuesdays & Wednesdays; Sundays 9:30 - 1:30

She is doing NICE programming

Posted DRE ad, have ~8 applications so far. Application deadline is March 31.

Met with new Director of Faith at Cornell. Sage Chapel will be closed over Christmas this year. We need to evaluate alternatives. Rev. Margaret is asking for another meeting with Cornell Director of Faith to check for more wiggle room. No promises to resume UU

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Christmas Eve service after renovation. Rev. Margaret is making connections with other people who may be able to help at Cornell.

Forming ad hoc committees:

Sextant search committee

Planning adult RE

International partnership

Maybe Fall - ad hoc for planning for 2 service Sundays

Preparedness - Zoom Sunday services? We will wait for guidance from Tompkins Co Health Department about restrictions to assembly.

How else to prepare? How can we be proactive? Train staff and small groups in Zoom (Jessica researching)? Set up phone-tree? Prepare Care Team for dealing with isolated people. Spatially map members, organize help by town/region. Volunteer tech-help committee? Form new small groups?

All staff will be involved in continuing to try to serve membership, so they will continue to be paid as usual.

Agenda Item # 6: Treasurer Report - Jennifer Streid-Mullen

Need to have an estimate of what reconfigured Recycle Sale will yield for \$\$

Agenda Item # 7: Need a new treasurer

Jennifer Streid-Mullen will depart no sooner than end of 2020. Uncertain about specifics.

Jennifer has one potential treasurer candidate in mind.

No downside to announcing our need by describing what is needed, scope of job.

Newsletter deadline this Thursday - Jennifer will write a recruitment announcement.

Arthur (nominating committee) was made aware of need for treasurer, so he can pass ideas to us (not that it is the responsibility of nominating comm.)

Agenda Item # 8: Recruiting for the BoT

2 Board members are off after this year, and Diana doesn't know yet.

Also need to build back up to 9 members, so we need 3+ new members

Need to coordinate with Nominations committee. Also include more cues in Wednesday newsletter and order of service. Every board member has a quota of coming up with one candidate and talking with them.

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Agenda Item # 9: Recycle Sale ad hoc committee status report

Meeting included Anita Hall, Mary Kirkpatric, Elton Hall (unable to attend: Sue Roenke, Sam Weeks, Jeannete Knapp).

- Sue still needs a co-chair
- Keep intake to just 3 times, 5-8 pm (only in August?) (screening good/bad goods)
- Abolish some departments
- Summary report was provided

Next steps? Some names for leadership were put forward. Should BoT approach individuals with ask?

Let's rebrand the recycle sale - bring back some excitement

Recruit from Small Groups?

Agenda Item # 10: Effort to come up with New Fundraiser

Rev. Margaret will investigate concert venue

Brainstorming ways to improve the Service Auction - other churches make 30K - 40K from their auction. Maybe move dinners to silent auction?

Motion from Kim: **Board will assume leadership of Service Auction in 2020-21 church year (Nov. 2020). Second from Wendy. PASSED.**

Agenda Item # 11: Strategic Planning update

April 26 - Reimagining Sunday

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Minutes taken by Matt Hare

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