

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Restoration
Minutes of the monthly board meeting
January 6, 2019

Present: Tim Styer, Moderator (TS); Len Rieser, Treasurer (LR); Stephen Workman, Secretary (SW); Sandy Fulton (SF); Wayne Boyd (WB); Cynthia Bradley (CB).

Absent: McKinley Sims, Minister (McS); Fern Culhane, Assistant Moderator (FC);

Vacant: Marianne Elias (resigned)

Chalice Lighting 1:05 p.m. TS opened with a reading by Sean Barron

Review of Board Minutes: Minutes of the December 2, 2018 monthly meeting were approved as presented.

611 Gorgas Lane: TS reported to McS that our focus must be on maintaining and supporting our full-time minister's salary and that it's unlikely that we'll move forward with the purchase of 611 Gorgas Lane.

RE Report: Attendance is growing. Cleaning of the classrooms is much improved compared to what was previously reported.

Minister's report: McS was out of the country but submitted a written report that noted an uptick in attendance, enhanced by folks specifically mentioning our social media presence as drawing them to us. It was a great holiday season. A new member event is planned for Jan 13th, with four new members anticipated. There may be up to 12 new members joining later this church year following a new member orientation scheduled in the Spring. McS is planning a doing a sermon series on Hinduism.

Justice Council: Maria Whitney has offered to help with Stenton Manor deliveries. Recent events include a screening on Wednesday, Dec. 26 at 6:30 PM of *Red Cry*, a documentary about the problems of Native Americans, historical and current. The committee has invited Mike Malloy of PA Innocence Project for January. The next hearing about SEPTA's fracking initiative will be on Tuesday, January 8 at 11:00, in the L&I Board Room, 1515 Arch Street, 18th floor. January's change for change collection will go to The Center for Returning Citizens, a training program to help persons released from prison establish themselves and move forward in a positive manner. The board thanks Bruce and Linda Pollack-Johnson for preparing this month's Justice Council board report.

Finance Report: LR reported that halfway through the fiscal year income realized is at 62%, and expenditures are 42% of what's been budgeted. This will likely change due to anticipated electrical work. Next year's budget will be challenged by the need to cover the minister's salary for a full year (not 11 months as we are doing in the current fiscal year) and to anticipate other increased expenses.

Building and Grounds: The electrical work may be more complicated than initially anticipated, but no decision to move forward has been planned to date.

Board vacancy: MaryEllen Norek and Suzanne Weltmann are possibly interested, but neither has yet confirmed a willingness to accept. Isabel Rieser has offered to consult with the Nominating Committee but will not be able to officially join officially as she is not a member of the church.

Minister's Legal Defense Fund: TS explained that the initiative came from McS's involvement with "J" who is interested in becoming a member of the congregation. McS and KP are interested in sponsoring "J's" application for US citizenship. As sponsor, McS would assume some liability for J.'s actual support for a period of years (not just for expenses of the application). There are also some limitations, practical and legal, to the sponsor's exposure. This is not what had been anticipated in the proposal as it was initially presented to the

board. Initial response is that this should be a Justice Council initiative and should be raised to the board level as an official request.

Minister's Salary:

Motion: To designate \$1,122 of minister's salary as housing allowance. Unanimously approved.

Co-sponsorship of David Dubbeldam's ordination: David Dubbeldam has asked us to co-sponsor his ordination along with the First Unitarian Church of Victoria, BC. The event will be scheduled for Spring 2019 at the Presbyterian church on Arch Street in Center City.

Motion: The officers of the UU Church of the Restoration agree to co-sponsor the ordination of David A. Dubbeldam along with the First Unitarian Church of Victoria, BC.

New Member Sunday: Four people are scheduled to be welcomed into membership on Sunday, January 13: Elaine Fein Calvin, Sonny Day, yyy, zzz.

Motion to approve will be conducted by email prior to January 13th.

TS is still seeking an additional board representative for UUPLAN.

New Member Sunday: January 13. Five to eight candidates may be interested, with an additional group perhaps later in the church year.

PIHN: PIHN will be back for the month of February. Dates are February 3rd to March 3rd. Restoration will be responsible for hosting for about ½ of the stay, with additional support coming from at least one other congregation.

Board retreat: January 18-19. Pat Infante will be facilitating. Focus will be on lay leadership co-leading with professional leadership. Friday evening will be at McS's home; Saturday will be at USG.

200th anniversary: Last Sunday in January is the 2020-anniversary service.

Town Hall meeting will be February 10.

To Do's

- TS meet with FC and McS regarding minister's legal fund, sponsorship for "J"
- SWW to send December & January minutes to the board
- SWW to send December minutes to Linda Hansell
- TS to get names of proposed new members from McS for email vote prior to January 13
- SF to meet with McS for planning the January 27 church anniversary service
- LR to revive discussion of pledge drive at Finance Committee
- SWW to write letter to D. Dubbeldam accepting the honor of co-sponsoring his ordination

Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 2:25.

Next meeting: February 3, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Stephen Workman