

Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of the Board Meeting
February 20, 2013

All Board of Trustees members and Reverend Hilary Krivchenia were present.

Karen Noorani, Alan Greenland and Raymond Yee were present as observers.

President Greg Blus called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Consent Agenda Items

Greg Sweigert made a motion to approve the January 16, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting minutes and the February reports (Minister's Report, Assistant Minister Lifespan Religious Education Report, CCUU Financials for January, the Finance Committee Minutes, the membership Coordinator Report, the Stewardship Report, and the Study Ministry Report – Winter 2013). The motion carried unanimously.

Board members raised questions about the process of establishing a charter, the charge for participating in the March 2nd music fundraiser, telephone expenses for the current year, and the financial report.

The Board affirmed the need to report separately, in the monthly financials, the plate cash to be shared as an income line item separate from the plate cash retained as well as to include an offsetting line item in the expense section each month reflecting the funds to be for shared. Greg Sweigert and Greg Blus agreed to follow up with the controller to begin this reporting as soon as it can be accomplished.

There were also questions raised about how to report/included the financial gifts to cover the carpet replacement in the sanctuary and the recovering all of the chairs in the sanctuary. The Board affirmed the need to include these items in the financials.

Unfinished Business

Survey Update

The survey results have been presented to the Board of Trustees and the Ministry Council per the plan agreed to earlier in the church year. Additionally a short version of the material dealing with member engagement was presented to the Membership Committee at their February meeting.

Bev Sneddon agreed to follow up with Cathy Maraist to determine the ways to use the survey results and begin additional discussions within the congregation.

Outreach/Fundraising Ad Hoc

Bev Sneddon discussed the results of the task force discussion of some of the key open issues for the Outreach Steering Committee. The issues were: where should OSC reside (Service, Foundations, or Board), the establishment of an emergency fund to help members of Countryside, and the where the decision on share-the-plates should reside.

We also reviewed the composition of the OSC which will consist of three members of Countryside selected by the Board, one person from each of the five ministries, and the Senior Minister as a non-voting member of the OSC. The leadership of each of the five ministries selects the best person to serve on the OSC and submits the name as part of the eight-person OSC team.

The Board affirmed the need to start considering an open list of names of members to fill the three Board-appointed positions, as there is a need to keep the OSC process moving forward.

Stewardship

Greg Blus reported that about 25% of the households (58 of a total of 224 households) have submitted pledge forms for a total of \$157,736. That amount represents an increase of 11% when 2012-2013 pledges are compared to 2013-2014 pledges for the same 58 households. Greg indicated that we were on track for wrapping up the pledge activity before the March 3rd deadline.

Annual congregational meeting date

The Board reconsidered the change of the date for the annual congregational meeting which the Board had voted on at the January meeting for May 26, 2013. The Board again discussed the options of May 12 (Mother's Day), May 26 (Memorial Day weekend), or May 19.

Tom Mactavish made a motion to change the date of the Annual Congregational meeting to Sunday, May 19, 2013. Nine Board members voted in favor of the motion and one member abstained: the motion carried.

Board/Ministry Council Retreat date

Bridget confirmed the date of Saturday, April 6, 2013 from 9am -1 pm as the date of the retreat.

Meeting with Reverend Schuler from FUS/Madison

We continue to work to find a date for the meeting with Reverend Schuler.

New Business

Social Action request for support

The Social Action Committee requested Board of Trustees support for the the Catherine Alice Gardens permanent supportive housing development for individuals and families living with disabilities. This facility is being proposed for 345 Eric Dr. in Palatine by the Housing Task Force, UP Development, the Kenneth Young Center, and the Alexian Brothers Center for Mental Health.

Gloria Kinney made a motion for the Board of Trustees to send a letter of support to the Village of Palatine. The motion carried unanimously. Greg Blus agreed to send the letter on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

District Assembly

The next district assembly meeting is scheduled for April 26-27 in Waukesha, WI.

Staff Budget (Executive Session)

Bev Sneddon made a motion to go into executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

Greg Sweigert made a motion to return to the regular session. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board affirmed support for the additional staff professional expenses subject to budget limitations. The first meeting of the budget committee Board, Minister and Ministry Council representatives) is scheduled for February 27, 2013.

New Charters (Navigators) discussion requested by Gloria Kinney

The Assistant Minister of Lifespan RE noted in the February report that Elizabeth Vesto and Matt Brindle were working on increased activity at Countryside for the Navigators program. Specifically the report noted that "During the worship services on March 3, we look forward to signing the Navigators charter, and recognizing the leaders and 19 young people registered for the new Navigators group." Gloria asked for us to prepare a better definition of who develops a charter like this and what is the process for approving it. Gloria, Kathy Dahlgren and Reverend Hilary agreed to work on this.

Distributing proceeds from the Snowflake Benefit

Bev Sneddon updated the Board on the plan for distributing the funds to the four charities selected by Countryside to be the recipients of the contributions. There was some thought to bringing the leaders of charities to Countryside for a presentation of the checks. It was not feasible to get them here given the pressing managerial needs of the organizations and how hard it will be to have them here.

Bev indicated that a small group from Countryside will be travelling to each of the organizations for presentation of the checks there. We plan to take photos of the activity and share them later with the congregation.

Wrap up

The Board members reviewed all action items from the meeting.

Reading and Adjournment

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at church.

These minutes were submitted by Richard Chay, Board of Trustees, Secretary, Countryside Church