

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

All Board of Trustees members and Reverend Hilary Krivchenia were present. Gloria Kinney was absent.

Alan Greenland and Elizabeth Vesto were present as observers.

Paul Sneddon was present to update the Board of Trustees on the design/construction planning for the sanctuary.

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

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Beth Ligouri made a motion to approve the February 20, 2013 Board of Trustees meeting minutes and the February reports (Minister's Report, Assistant Minister Lifespan Religious Education Report, CCUU Financials for February, the Finance Committee Minutes, the Kinship Ministry Report, and the Stewardship Update. The motion carried unanimously.

Board members raised questions about the financials, specifically that the financials include the income and expenses for outreach/fundraisers as separate line items and to include shared plate cash income and expense as separate line items in the next finance report. There was also a brief discussion about the possible strategic planning process recommended earlier this year by Gloria Kinney.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### Survey Update

Bev Sneddon followed up with Cathy Maraist about the action items resulting from the findings of the Countryside member survey. Ministry Council members are working on action plans. Cathy Mariast has agreed to attend the next Ministry Council meeting to help guide the discussion. Richard and Cathy will present the finding from the survey and next steps to the congregation at a (TBD) April meeting.

#### Outreach Steering Committee

Greg Sweigert made a motion to replace the Outreach Funding Council charter with the Outreach Steering Committee policy in the Countryside Church Policy Manual. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board also agreed to ask Laura Mandell to join the OSC filling one of three Board-appointed positions (three of the eight positions are to be filled by Board appointment). Board members agreed to submit names to Bridget Smith in the next week. At the end of that time, Bridget will review the names with the Nominating Committee to determine any possible overlap with candidates they may be considering for other positions. After that, the Board will affirm two additional OSC members by email vote.

### Stewardship

Greg Blus updated the Board of Trustees on the progress of the campaign. We have \$380,000 pledged thus far with only 30 households yet to be heard from. It appears that we will reach the target pledged amount of \$404,000. This represents a significant increase from last year.

The possibility of a second ask was discussed but the sense of the Board was that this was not desirable since we are likely to have achieved the target gross pledges budget of \$404,000. Additionally it is possible that additional contributions (as a capital campaign for the sanctuary) might be sought later in the year to complete the required repairs/improvements to the sanctuary.

A meeting with the budget planning team is scheduled for April 2, following the Ministry Council meeting.

### Sanctuary renovation

Paul Sneddon attended the meeting to update the Board of Trustees on the planning for the repairs/improvements to the sanctuary. Presently, the sanctuary chairs are being recovered and the carpet is scheduled to be replaced. The additional items under consideration are the complete replacement of the raised area at the front of the sanctuary, relocation of the video screens to improve sight lines, and the addition of an ADA compliant ramp. The cost of this work, including permits, is estimated at \$41,500 (Keyboard is an optional additional expense of \$5,000). This total amount can be funded out of the existing capital reserve funds. Currently, the capital reserve has \$83,000.

Additional money for lighting, the choir wall, door/window movement, and a new pulpit, has to be sought from the congregation. This portion of the work is estimated at \$96,450. The largest portion of this amount (about \$50,000) is the current sanctuary lighting that has become obsolete.

Board members asked about other items on the repair/remodel list such as the cost of parking lot repairs/resurfacing, and a replacement sign for the property. There was an interest in seeing the complete list of all anticipated likely building repair/remodeling so that the Board could make a funding decision with a complete picture of costs.

The Board of Trustees affirmed a decision to move forward with drawings/renderings of the sanctuary work and to work on a plan to communicate this project to the members of the congregation.

#### Meeting with Reverend Schuler from FUS/Madison

Bev Sneddon confirmed that Reverend Schuler would visit Countryside on Saturday, April 13, time to be determined.

#### Navigators USA

Greg Sweigert made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Navigators USA Annual agreement that establishes Navigators Chapter 30 at Countryside Church. The motion carried unanimously. President Blus signed the agreement with Navigators USA on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Elizabeth Vesto was present at the meeting and answered questions from the Board about Navigators USA generally, the number of children participating, and activities completed so far. Study Ministry is the present home for the Navigators Chapter.

#### **New Business**

##### Outreach Steering Committee Board nominees

Discussed under Outreach Steering Committee agenda item above.

##### April 6<sup>th</sup> Board/Ministry Council Retreat Agenda

Agenda to be prepared by Bridget, Greg Blus and Reverend Hilary.

#### **Wrap up**

The Board members reviewed all action items from the meeting.

#### **Reading and Adjournment**

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at church.

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