

Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Minutes of the Board Meeting
June 18, 2013

Board Secretary Richard Chay, and Trustee Gloria Kinney were absent from the meeting. All other Board of Trustees members and Reverend Colleen Vahey were present at the meeting; Reverend Hilary Krivchenia was present via SKYPE. A quorum was present.

Alan Greenland, and Board of Trustees-elect members John Mosman and Sheryl Skifstad were present as observers.

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

Consent Agenda Items

Beth Ligouri made a motion to approve the May 15, 2013, Board of Trustees meeting minutes and the June reports (Senior Minister's Report, Assistant Minister for Lifespan Religious Education Report, President's Report, CCUU Financials for June, and CCUU Finance Committee Meeting minutes for June). Kathy Dahlgren seconded the motion.

Rev. Colleen Vahey requested that the May Minutes be amended to reflect that she had never participated in a discussion about the sanctuary renovation project.

The motion, with the requested change by Rev. Colleen Vahey, carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Communications Policy

Bev Sneddon presented the revised Communications Policy dated June 10, 2013. While under revision for several years, the policy most recently reflects substantial work from Rev. Hilary Krivchenia, Laurie Lantz and President-elect Bev Sneddon. As revised, the policy is more succinct than the existing Communications Policy.

President Greg Blus invited incoming Board of Trustee members John Mosman and Sheryl Skifstad to participate in the meeting's discussion as non-voting members.

Discussion followed and included the Board's observation of the included reference to CCUU's Covenant of Right Relations and the importance of this affirmation. Further discussion considered issues of attribution, unsigned contributions, contributions from unknown sources, and a concern with terms in the draft.

Kathy Dahlgren made a motion to table the adoption of the Communications Policy dated June 10, 2013, as presented for future consideration. Greg Sweigert seconded the motion. Discussion followed. It was suggested that the phrase "actionable liability" under "Purpose," item #2 be changed to "media related liability." It was further

suggested that item #3 under "Purpose" be replaced with the phrase "to promote compassionate communications." Additionally, it was suggested that item #6 under "Limitations" be changed to "anything from an unknown source." The motion failed unanimously.

Kathy Dahlgren made a motion to approve the Communications Policy with the changes suggested during discussion of the previous motion. Tom MacTavish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

General Assembly

Rev. Hilary Krivchenia reporting live from Louisville noted that Judy Ball and Elizabeth Vesto were making a banner for the parade. A large group from CCUU is expected to attend GA. At General Assembly, Rev. Colleen Vahey will be recognized during the service of the Living Tradition worship service, for her first year of preliminary fellowship as a UU minister.

Assistant Minister for Lifespan Religious Education Contract

President Greg Blus stated that between the May Board of Trustees' meeting and tonight's meeting, the Board voted unanimously via email to accept the Reverend Colleen Vahey's contract. He further reported that the contract has been signed by all parties.

Fall Retreat

President-elect Bev Sneddon walked the Board through general plans for the fall retreat. The retreat is scheduled for September 6-7, 2013, at DeKoven Center in Racine, Wisconsin. There is some money in the budget to cover some costs and Trustees are each asked to make an additional contribution. The retreat will begin with Friday dinner, followed by sessions that evening. On Saturday, sessions will begin after breakfast and continue through mid-afternoon. A facilitator still needs to be selected. President-elect Bev Sneddon and Rev. Hilary Krivchenia have discussed several facilitators, and plan to ask Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley.

New Business

Member Pledge Exemptions

President Greg Blus stated that the Board would address this in Executive Session.

Firearms Policy

The Senior Minister's report noted that Illinois is moving toward a Concealed / Carry Law. Thus, CCUU should address this issue. The Board discussed how other congregations in states with concealed / carry statutes have addressed this issue. The

Board will wait until the law passes before drafting a policy. The Board anticipates that any policy would build on CCUU's Covenant of Right Relations.

President Greg Blus thanked the visitors for attending the meeting and requested that they leave so that the Board could move into Executive Session.

Alan Greenland requested one minute of the Board's time and he presented Greg Blus, Richard Chay, and Greg Sweigert, as departing officers of the Board of Trustees, with gifts.

President Greg Blus invited incoming Board of Trustees members John Mosman and Sheryl Skifstad to remain for the Executive Session as non-voting participants.

Executive Session

Bridget Smith made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Greg Sweigert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Bridget Smith made a motion to end the Executive session and return to the regular meeting. Greg Sweigert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

During the Executive Session the Board unanimously approved the list of pledge exemptions.

Wrap up

The Board members reviewed all Action items from the meeting.

Reading and Adjournment

President-elect Bev Sneddon thanked Greg Blus, Richard Chay and Greg Sweigert for their dedicated service.

Kathy Dahlgren made a motion to adjourn. Beth Ligouri seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at CCUU.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Quentel, member of the Board of Trustees, CCUU