

FIRST UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF WAUSAU

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm

In Attendance: Beier, Briquet Miller, Cedar, Hupy, Maier, Peterson (presiding), Wright. Mason, (ex officio) **Excused:** Kurth, Heiser

Staff: Spialek, Trombley,

Visitors: Jefferson, (Treasurer), Carl Drake, Christina Priewe (Stewardship)

Chalice Lighting, Reading, Reflection

Agenda Consent and Repair: Separate Minister's report as a standalone report. Add Reserve Fund report to Old Business

Approval of August 15, 2017 minutes: Motion to approve, all in favor, Wright abstaining

Treasurer's Report: Jefferson submitted report in writing. Jefferson stated it was a very good August with strong pledge income. We must continue to keep an eye on the possible shortfall this budget year.

Minister's Report: Report submitted in writing. Mason noted his meeting with various community and faith leaders. He also presented options as regards the Start-Up workshop offered by the UUA's Congregational Life Consultant of the MidAmerica Region, Lisa Presley. Option 1: schedule now, 2: meet with only staff and discuss their working environment, 3: don't do it at all. Mason noted that people aren't having much a problem reaching out to him. Thoughts from the Board were to revisit option 1 a few months down the road when all of us have gotten to know one another better and can articulate our shared vision of congregational life. A special thank you was extended to Spialek and Trombley for the wonderful Church picnic they organized at Oak Island. Turnout was very good. Discussion turned to the details for Mason's Installation service on Nov. 5, 2017. Committee members would like to have a meal celebration catered by Urban Street Bistro. A small budget is needed for the celebration. Spialek mentioned that Religious Services budgeted \$2,000 and has sent \$1300. Perhaps that remaining could go to the Committee. The Board agreed that the committee go ahead with their plans. Briquet Miller will check on the cost of the food and he and Beier will help procure the money. The Board also wished to add gas money for Jim Coakley's trip to Wausau for the day.

Staff Reports:

- Congregational Administer: Spialek presented building use costs. Often the payments made are not in keeping with the cost of using the building. This possible disparity will be revisited soon.
- Religious Education: Report submitted. "New Beginnings". Trombley stated that the children enrollment numbers are up at the start of the year. She also submitted salary proposals for consideration as budget talk's start.

Committee Reports:

- **Stewardship:** Drake and Priewe presented the new logo "New Beginnings" and the plans for the "kick-off" on October 15, 2017. The brochure that is being printed will be used for the Stewardship campaign as well as throughout the year for prospective new members. 4 testimonials by Richard Olson, Mandy Wright, Jody Maier and Christina Priewe will be given during the month of October. The top 30 pledgers will be invited to party hosted by Linda Ware. Invitations will go out soon. The campaign has secured two matching grants; one for all new money pledged and one for an increased over the previous year's pledge. 6th Street Café will cater a pot luck kick-off on Oct. 15th. All plans are on schedule and the team is excited.
- **Property:** Peterson submitted the Property Committee's list of Church needs in the near future. The list was prioritized to reflect the state of finances available to the committee. Discussion on that list will be on going as the budget is finalized and the success of the Stewardship drive is further clarified.
- **Worship/Music:** No report although Jefferson stated that there was a good meeting with Mason and that the remaining Sundays in the calendar year that needed lay coverage were being addressed.

Old Business:

- The matter of a press release announcing the arrival of our new minister will be addressed by Beier and Spialek. Cedar will send a template for the release and a list of media outlets.
- Maier presented the draft of Reserve Fund Policy. Motion was made and seconded to accept the draft. Discussion followed as to the percentage of total budget that should be allocated to the fund. 5% seemed a stretched to some but it was felt that that we must at least try. Wright questioned the "pay back" statement in the draft and it was noted that that was not necessarily a requirement and perhaps it should read "as well as plans to replenish, if any, to replenish the fund" The motion was approved.

New Business:

- It was noted that there is not a defibrillator in our church. As this is a necessary item it was decided that this needs to be researched as to cost, training of staff and certain members. Peterson will contact Shannon Thielman for the next steps.
- 2018 First reading of the Budget :

Spialek walked us through the total income possibilities and then expenses, especially the employee compensations.

Mason described the music position, wishes to start slow and then grow in the future.

Spialek explained the increase in expenses with regard to increased hours of staff, professional expenses and the new music position. Some of these expenses will be moved to other categories.

Peterson reminded the Board that we should start to fund the Minister's Sabbatical Fund that will need to be available by year 7 according to the ministerial contract. Money will need to be available for continued Minister Pay as well as money to pay the substitute/visiting ministers.

Discussion ended for this first reading

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Beier, Secretary

ALL SUBMITTED REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CHURCH OR FROM THE SECRETARY