

FIRST UNIVERSALSIT UNITARIAN CHURCH OF WAUSAU

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 21, 2018

Meeting called to order 6:30 pm

In Attendance: Beier, Hemp, Kurth, Monarski, Peterson (presiding), Wright, Mason (ex-officio), Jefferson (Treasurer)

Absent: Busig, Briquelet Miller, Maier

Staff: Trombley (DRE)

Visitors: none

Chalice lighting, reading, reflections: Kurth gave kudos to the renovation of Yawkey Hall, mentioned that she was thrilled with the hiring of the new music director and thank the congregation for their support of the children who went to China and how pleased Ari Schmidt would be to see her fund to be used in that way.

Agenda Consent and Repair: no changes

Approval of the June 19, 2018 minutes: (note there was no July meeting). **Motion made and seconded to approve as written. All in favor.**

Treasurer's Report: Report submitted in writing. Both June and July reports were handed out. Jefferson's summary explanation was also presented. He was thanked for his excellent analysis.

Minister's Report: Report submitted in writing. Mason highlighted several aspects of his report: He has been asked to work with the WIPP's leadership to help lead community dialogues on diversity and tolerance. He would also appreciate the Board making a modest contribution to support the James F. Veninga Lecture of Religion and Society. He believes firmly that the area churches should be financial supporters of this invaluable service. Jefferson asked about his experience at the General Assembly, specifically the BLUU. He answered that he came away feeling that the concerns expressed by the members of BLUU (Black Lives of UU Promise and Practice Campaign), as uncomfortable as hearing them might be, it is time to make efforts to dialogue, listen and interact going forward. Toward that end he has asked the Community Focus Collection Committee if he could appeal to the congregation for financial support during the Nov 2018 collection drive. He will be the speaker at that time. Mason has decided to move his office into the library now that the renovation is completed to better ensure privacy and to give Anji a more secure and private space.

Staff Reports:

Congregational Administrator: Spialek submitted her report

Religious Education: Trombley stated that since she has just returned to work there was not a full written report. She said that she has most of her teachers lined up for the coming fall session.

Committee Reports:

Property: Peterson briefly mentioned the finished work on Yawkey Hall and stated that we are still looking into a fireplace insert. We are also looking into the possibility of a dimmer for the lights.

Worship and Music: Report submitted. The committee is gearing up for the coming church year and had positive feedback on the summer services. They are meeting again to critique the summer services on August 22.

Ad Hoc: As noted in the Minister's report, the committee has sent an interim report on the proposed changes to the by-laws and board policies to him and Peterson. The final report will be presented at the Sept meeting with notice going to the congregation and a vote planned for the annual meeting in Dec.

Old Business:

Audit Process: As noted in the Treasurer's report, Jefferson has received the proposal from KerberRose regarding the scope and cost of an audit. **A motion was made and seconded** to approve the examination by KerberRose subject to Mary Pierce's recommendation to proceed. The final cost is not known but the auditor felt it would be between 2500 and 3000 dollars. We have not had a formal audit for some time and it was felt in the discussion that it would be good to have our practices examined to ensure we are doing the correct practices. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Building Use policy: The new building rental agreement and fee schedule was presented.

Mason and Spialek did research on other building fee schedules and use agreements and presented their recommendations for a new one for us. They noted that of all the groups who use the building on a regular basis, no one has an agreement. It was noted that in using (renting) one area that automatically opens other areas for use, i.e. using the atrium means one has use of the social area near the offices. All renters must sign the new agreements although most likely some of our now renters will not re-up mainly due to the new and higher fees. Some groups will be "grandfathered" in, meaning they will not have a fee charged but will have to abide by the Building Rental Agreement. Mason is writing a letter to all renters explaining the new policy/fees and the time limits they will have to sign the new agreement. After discussion Mason was asked to clarify the sentence "Rental fees do not apply to pledging church members". That language was confusing and not precise enough. **Motion was made and seconded to approve the Rental Agreement and new Fee Schedule. Vote was unanimous.**

New Business:

Preliminary budget discussion: As per the Minister report, the need for a sexton will be added to the budget talks starting in Sept.

Work Week End: We are in desperate need for a fall clean-up day. It was agreed to set aside a Saturday in Nov. for that purpose. Every store room and the basement are full of leftover building debris , no longer used “junk”, old doors, carpet remnants, a call will be sent out for all able body people to help. Beer, soda and pizza will be provided.

Circuit Writer article schedule: As usual the board will be asked to write a timely article for each month of the church year. So far Sept is Judy (Yawkey Hall final report), Oct. Tim (Fall cleanup)Nov. Josh (explanation of the changes to the by-laws, bd policies, importance of attending the Annual Meeting for the vote) Dec. free, Jan. Sheryl (topic to be determined) and the last four months will be filled in during the Sept. meeting

Meeting adjourned 8:15

Respectfully Submitted

Judy Beier, Secretary

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