

First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 19,2021
6:30 pm
Meeting held via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic

Attending: Briquet-Miller and the Maier (Presiding), Hemp, Jefferson (Treasurer), Hall, Stezenski-Williams, Wright, Monarski, Mason (ex-officio) and Bornemann

Excused: Busig and Kurth

Chalice lighting, reading, reflections: The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Kevin Briquet-Miller who led the initial part of the meeting. The board met via a tele-meeting using Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic. Kevin read the mission statement and Jody Maier read words from Socrates. This is Kevin's last meeting as Board President and he thanked the Board for his farewell present.

Agenda Consent and Repair: The agenda was accepted as written after a motion by Brian Stezenski-Williams and a second by Jody Maier.

(Ongoing) During this pandemic time, Sheryl Hemp will ask the congregational administrator to make paper copies of all board materials to put in the church mailboxes of all Board members. Because we are meeting remotely those materials are not available in written form to the Board at this time.

Board Officer Election: Sheryl Hemp made a motion to nominate Jody Maier as President. After a second from Brian Stezenski-Williams the Board approved this. Brian Stezenski-Williams nominated Sheryl Hemp as Vice President. After a second from Karen Monarshi, this nomination was approved by the Board. The nominations for Secretary are currently tabled until the next Board meeting. Randy Jefferson will continue as Treasurer. At this point, Kevin Briquet-Miller left the meeting and Jody Maier took over as President.

Approval of the December 15, 2020 Minutes: Please see the report in writing. Approved by consent agenda after a motion from Brian Stezenski-Williams and a second from Kara Hall.

Treasurer's Report: Please see the report in writing. Randy Jefferson also presents a verbal report. He states that the our church income is right on budget. A final 2020 report will be coming soon. Applying for the initial PPP loan was a successful process. It proved to be important for our church financial status. All are in favor of having Danika contact Incredible Bank to check into the process of applying for a possible second PPP loan. The ongoing work with Kerber Rose has continues leading into 2021. In this really strange pandemic year, we have done well under the circumstances. The treasurer's report is approved by consent agenda after a motion from Brian Stezenski-Williams and a second from Karen Monarski.

Minister and Staff Reports: Please see the minister's report in writing. There has been roof winterizing of problem areas. Please expect a property committee report in February regarding this and other areas. The church is also moving forward with a modified bounce back plan towards opening up again. AA meetings are currently back in the building and NA will be returning. The other area of discussion is whether to continue the current ex-com meetings, modify their role or discontinue them completely.

Does the ex-com serve a valid role to clarify the Board agenda and other issues or does it lead to a potential lack of transparency. The plan will be for Brian and Jody to discuss the role of the ex-com and to bring the subject back to the board later for further discussion. The issue is tabled for now. The minister and staff reports were approved by consent agenda after a motion by Brian Stezenski-Williams and a second from Kara Hall.

Board Goals for 2021: An continuing discussion occurs regarding goals for the Board in 2021. Included on the list are governance, the endowment, board policies and the capital campaign. Discussion to continue in February.

The 150th anniversary committee is a stand- alone process and a board development process is a goal of the nominating committee.

Stewardship Campaign: Current pledges returned are at \$259,000 with a goal of \$374,000. Of the pledges received thus far, half have given more money and half gave the same amount. 35 pledges are still outstanding. This could potentially bring us to 94% of our goal. The stewardship campaign will continue through the first quarter. We may need to consider contingency budget plans.

Bi-annual church auction – a discussion continues as to how to proceed with a potential auction (virtual or on-line event) during the pandemic. Brian Stezenski-Williams and Sheryl Hemp will hold a meeting in February to continue to explore this process. Members from past auction committees and the congregation are invited to attend. Please see minutes from the January meeting.

Jody Maier will write the monthly Board article for the Circuit Writer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectively submitted,

Sheryl Hemp
Acting Secretary