

First Universalist Unitarian Church of Wausau  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
February 16, 2021  
6:30 pm  
Meeting held via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic

**Attending:** Maier (Presiding), Jefferson (Treasurer), Hall, Stezenski-Williams, Wright, Monarski, Mason (ex-officio), Kurth, and Busig

**Excused:** Hemp

**Chalice lighting, reading, reflections:** The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by President Jody Maier. The board met via a tele-meeting using Zoom due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. President Maier lit a chalice and read brief words by Elizabeth McMaster.

**Agenda Consent and Repair:** The agenda was accepted as written.

(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.

**Approval of the January 19, 2021 Minutes:** Please see the report in writing. Approved by consent agenda after a motion from Kara Hall and second by Josh Wright. Busig and Kurth abstained, all others approved.

**Open Secretary Appointment:** At this time there are no volunteers to commit to the year-long appointment of secretary. Busig has committed to acting as secretary for this meeting and the March meeting. Further discussion will be continued at the March meeting.

**Open Trustee Appointment:** Brian Stezinski-Williams reported that the nominating committee met on February 4th, 2021. They are aware of the position being vacated by Roxanne Bornemann and will be meeting again February 22nd to discuss possible nominations.

**Minister and Staff Reports:** (consent agenda) Please see the Minister's report in writing. Reverend Mason announced that his preliminary fellowship was renewed by the UUA. This report highlighted the need to continue to strengthen the relationship between the Minister and the BOT. He asks that Board Members reach out to him individually as a part of this work to strengthen the relationship between the members of the board and the minister. Reverend Mason also states that he would like to see the Board work more consistently from the policies. The Minister's report had additional suggestions for work this year. President Maier said that they would be more fully addressed at the March Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Please see the report in writing. Randy Jefferson also presents a verbal report. Randy asked the board about the format of his verbal reporting and it was agreed that all valued his summary and editorial comment on financial health of the church. There was some discussion about how a prepaid pledge is defined.

- a. PPP Payroll protection plan loan was forgiven.

b. Stewardship: pledges are still slowly rolling in, though it still looks like we will fall short of what is budgeted for the year. Future board meetings will be discussing the plan for how we will close this gap.

**Pandemic Bounce Back Update:** To date, there are a few small groups now meeting in person in the church, including the Women's AA group and NA. At this point it is unlikely that church will resume in person this spring, though there is some cause for cautious optimism about meeting in person in late spring/early summer thanks to vaccine distribution. Nothing is definite at this time.

**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.

- Governance and Police: the nominating committee/board development committee consisting of Dawn Aschenbrenner, Heather Busig, and Brian Stezenski-Williams will work on recruiting a new board member as well as draft a document to assist new members with onboarding. A group consisting of Kara Hall, Joyce Kurth and Karen Monarski will review current policy and bring to the full board any discrepancies between the policies and the current functioning of the board. This may also include Reverend Mason and Brian Stezenski-Williams.
- The capitol campaign discussion is being tabled for now.
- There are no updates on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at this time, due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

**Bi-annual church auction:** Brian Stezenski-Williams reported that there is currently nobody willing to step into a leadership role to plan an auction and they are putting any further auction discussion on hold for now. He states that a group made up of Sheryl Hemp, Jerry Phelan and himself will meet again in May to reassess where people are at with regards to planning and leadership for a potential auction Fall, 2021.

Josh Wright will write the monthly Board article for the Circuit Writer.

Move to accept all reports as written made by Brian Stezenski-Williams and seconded by Joyce Kurth. Approved by all present. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.