

FIRST UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF WAUSAU

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

January 19, 2016

**Call to Order: 6:40 PM**

**In Attendance:** Jefferson (presiding). Kurth, Briquetlet-Miller, Meier, Cedar, Beier, Peterson, Bushbaum (ex-officio), Hupy

**Visitors:** Linda Haney, Sally Decker, Anji Spialek (administrator)

Jefferson called the meeting to order and started by asking board members to offer reflections on recent Congregational events that had positive effects on us.

**Agenda Consent and Repair:** Added to the agenda were requests for approval of the members of the Personnel committee, the Lifespan Faith Development director, comments regarding the UUA's Congregational Poll and Search Comm. Report. Consideration for approval of Minister contract and 2016 Member certification were moved to closed session. Motion was made to approve changes. All in favor. No abstentions.

**Approval of December 15, 2015 Minutes:** Motion to approve all in favor. Three new incoming members abstained.

**Approval of December 15, 2015 Treasurer's Report:** As the report presented was only a preliminary one approval was postponed until February meeting.

**Minister's Report:** Bushbaum presented a written report noting highlights: Hiring of Lifespan Faith Development director starting this part-time job in June. (Until such time, she will be working Sundays and there is a volunteer working part-time until the end of May.) Lifespan programming for children and youth. Welcoming 8 new members who signed the book Jan 18<sup>th</sup>. Full report is attached.

**Committee/Ministry Team Reports:**

Owl Training, Linda Haney is in the process of putting together a preliminary budget for the training session for Owl teachers to be held at the UU Wausau in June. She plans on a follow up report in March. Michael has built a URL on the UU Wausau website for Owl information and sign-up.

Search Committee Linda Haney reported that the committee has met once and plans on a Sat. Jan.23<sup>rd</sup> meeting with Ian Evison to help getting a UUA facilitator for their upcoming retreat. Linda volunteered to be a liaison to the Board. Bios for the Search Comm. members will be posted on our website.

Personnel Committee The members of the Personnel committee were formally approved by the Board. They are Barb May, Marsha Fitzgerald and Brian Stenzenski-Williams. Barb May is currently working on revisions to the committee's Policies and Procedures.

Property Committee Peterson presented the Property report. Updated the progress on the Rec room. Presented a short update on the kitchen renovation project. At this point basic designs are being looked at, some bids for equipment have come in but no decisions are being made.

Stewardship No report

Worship & Music Jefferson's report is attached

**Old Business:**

Communication Policy Cedar reported on the beginnings of a UU Wausau Communications policy compiled in conjunction with Anji. They are getting ready to edit and consolidate various ideas and will present such draft at a future meeting.

Reserve Fund Policy Beier and Cedar have been working on compiling a policy on the **purpose, use** and **dispensing** of such funds. Carol Bronston will be consulted on the draft which will be sent to Board

members prior to request for approval. The Board was reminded that such funds are theirs to use at their discretion.

**New Business:**

Election of 2016 Officers of the Board. Jefferson proposed a slate of officers, Jefferson, President, CJ Heiser Vice President, Beier Secretary. Cedar presented the motion, Peterson seconded it. Discussion followed on possible subsequent leadership. Unanimous motion passed. No abstentions.

Motion was made to go into closed session to discuss hiring contracts, Member Certification. All approved  
Motion made to return to open session. All approved

Motion was made to approve the hiring of Julie Trombley as the new Director of Lifespan Faith Development. Bushbaum noted that Barb May of the Personnel committee helped in the development of the job description, interview questions and application reviews. Ms. Trombley is now under a teaching contract until the end of June and as such will be starting our position in her part-time position at that time. Until then she will work Sundays. Motion discussed with the emphasis on the need to meet budget expectations to maintain this hire. Unanimous approval, no abstentions.

The UUA's Congregation Poll was discussed. This poll asks congregations to vote on major issues that the UUA would add to the 2016 GA agenda. It was noted that although we agreed with the inclusion of all of the issues and as such would have voted "yes", this poll came too late for a conversation on it with our congregation. Thus we abstained, meaning we are participating only to contribute to the necessary quorum requirements. In the future we would hope to receive this earlier. Church members are encouraged to view the complete text of the four Congregational Study/ Action Issues at [uua.org/statements/current](http://uua.org/statements/current).

Motion made by Cedar, seconded by Jefferson to approve the Amended Interim Ministry contract as presented by Jefferson. Among other items this contract extends the length of the contract by one year until July 2017. Discussion followed. Unanimous approval

2016 Member Certification Postponed until March meeting.

Board Retreat June 18<sup>th</sup> was chosen for a one day board retreat. Time, place and agenda are to be determined. Mark the date.

Property Committee Request The property committee requested a draw of up to \$7,000 from the Reserve Fund to pay for the initial up front cost associated with the Barbara Seegert kitchen renovation bequest. The money from this bequest will not be available until Nov. and the committee would like to be as "shovel ready" as possible at that time. The money spent will be returned as the bequest comes in. Motion made to approve request. Discussion included timeline for the congregation to have in-put in this renovation. Motion approved with the abstention of Beier and Peterson.

Board Table Topics Feb. will be the resumption of Table Topic talks. It was decided to set a date by using Pot Luck Sunday. This will be permanent if it is successful. It is a time when many of our members are here and the board will set up a table and listen to questions and concerns from those present. For this first time it will be an open discussion. Future talks will have a theme or specific topic if need be.

March Circuit Writer article will be written by Randy.

**Next Meeting Date:** February 16, 2016 @ 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned 9:10

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Beier