

AGENDA
FIRST UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF WAUSAU
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
April 18,2023 6:30 pm

Mission Statement: To transform ourselves and the larger community by being a bright and welcoming sanctuary of hope, compassion, service and understanding – allowing individuals of differing spiritual and religious beliefs to experience acceptance and support, a sense of belonging, and continued personal growth as part of a free-thinking, inclusive church community.

To attend: Hemp (Presiding), Stezenski-Williams, Jefferson (Treasurer), Scharpf, Hall, Leigh and Ashenbrenner

Excused: Mason (ex-officio)

Chalice lighting, reading, reflections

Agenda Consent and Repair

Approval of the March minutes, Treasurer's report, Committee reports (Consent agenda)

Old Business

Strategic Plan Discussion – reports of subgroups

Stewardship/Pledge/Budget Update

Sabbatical Update

Property Committee request update and Radon status

Ongoing recruitment discussion

New Business

Upcoming CW article from Board – Brian to develop a schedule

Adjournment

Present: Dawn Ashenbrenner, Sheryl Hemp, Randy Jefferson, Jeff Leigh, Brian Stezenski-Williams

I.Approval of February Minutes

- Motion by Dawn, 2nd by Jeff, approved unanimously

II.Consent Agenda & Repair

- Motion by Jeff, 2nd by Randy, approved unanimously

III.Strategic Plan Discussion

- Jeff gave an overview of current groups & committees active throughout the church
- There are a handful, most of them are small
- He reminded the BOT that reverend Beckel decided to eliminate most church committees because at the time they were not active doing any serious work...it's unclear if we have a new vision for policy governance of the Church...also clear that our efforts to engage new people in different aspects of the Church are not succeeding in generating new members
- Related to budget planning, Randy again discussed the importance of engaging the whole church in an extended, multi-part discussion about which of the Church's programs and ministries they want to support with our limited resources.
- This year's financials will likely be okay, but in 2024, finances will be much tighter and we will have to make difficult decisions about what programs to keep and what programs to trim or cut...these decisions need to be made with broad input from the congregation

IV.Stewardship

- Some positive developments since the last BOT meeting in February
- Some additional people have renewed their pledges
- Some new pledges
- One major gift
- Still 2024 still looks problematic, especially because we continue to rely very heavily on a very small number of major gift donors who may or may not continue their support
- Randy would like to re-engage with the fundraising consultant that the Church worked with prior to and leading into the Pandemic...to help ensure that our budget planning is headed in the right direction

V.Sabbatical Update

- Communication with Brian Mason has been limited, but positive
- He has returned from his hike in Europe and appears to be energized by the experience
- Sheryl wants provide a small gift to interim minister, Suzanne Wasclucuk
- Consensus that a gift is a good idea

VI.Property

- The Property Committee is taking the lead on testing for Radon
- A company has been engaged to do the testing

- Still waiting for the results
- Randy expects to have and will share the results on or shortly after 3.22.23

VII.Circuit Writer Article for April

- Brian agreed to write it

VIII.Adjournment

- Motion by Randy, 2nd by Dawn, approved unanimously