

Board Meeting 11/12/2015

Present:

Board Members: Robyn, Jane, D'On, Paul, Barbara

Guest: Mathias

- Meeting called to order at 6:40 pm.

- Treasurer's Report:
 - D'On distributed the Treasurer's reports for August and September.
 - With the fiscal year 25% complete we have collected 40% of our projected income and spent 15% of our projected expenses. However, we should not get too excited about these results. Income includes nearly \$9,000 in pre-paid pledges and transfer of surplus from last year. Expenses are back-loaded because we are currently operating without a minister.
 - D'On restated our expectations. We are still running \$3,300 ahead of projections.
 - There should have been a line item in the budget for the Engagement Committee. Dion transferred the \$119 in their reserve to the budget. We are willing to authorize the engagement committee to spend additional money in anticipation of the worship committee under spending their budget. D'On will ask Diane if she has needs in excess of the \$119 they currently have.
 - Paul will continue to talk with Tode about a yard sale in the spring.
 - Barbara will broach the subject of the yard sale with Amber. Would they be interested in a collaborative yard sale, splitting the proceeds?

- Congregational Endorsement Process (Mathias)
 - The Social Justice Committee would like to have a process for the congregation to endorse social justice stances. Their initial proposal:
 - At our [the Social Justice Committee] monthly meetings, the committee, which all congregation members are welcome to attend, will discuss ideas about potential campaigns to endorse -- we will occasionally hear from organizational representatives who will be invited to present at our meetings.
 - If we decide to recommend something for endorsement, we will communicate our proposal to the board and will make at least one announcement to the congregation inviting all to come and share their opinions at the subsequent board meeting. We will also have an anonymous comment box available for people to submit their feedback for the board's consideration.
 - We will then send at least one representative to the next board meeting to present and field questions about the proposed endorsement
 - The board will then discuss and vote on the endorsement.
 - The aim is to have a process that would allow for a quicker turnaround to endorse potentially time-sensitive actions/campaigns, while still creating ample transparency and space for congregational involvement.

- D'On wonders how much we, as a congregation, wants to endorse specific measures.
 - We don't really want to spend a lot of time as a board, but we recognize that ultimately it is our responsibility to approve/deny such a request. We would want the Social Justice Committee to bring us fully considered proposals.
 - We'd want to be sure the congregation was solidly in favor of the proposal.
 - We want whatever process we come up with to be nimble.
 - We'd like to know if the congregation is in favor of endorsing issues at all.
 - Would an email to the congregation be in order:
 - We have this issue
 - What does the congregation want to do in general?
 - Should it come from the Social Justice Committee or the Board?
 - We empower Matthias to craft an email to be sent out subject to the Board's approval
 - We are open to creating such a process if it appears that the congregation is in favor. It should not involve congregational meetings or a bylaws change.
- Meeting minutes: The minutes of the board meeting on 10/8/15 were distributed by Barbara ST. Jane moved they be approved as corrected. Robyn seconded. 4 in favor, one abstention.
 - Paul S has requested that Wy'east sponsor his candidacy for UU ministry. The board approved the request unanimously via email. Barbara recommends that we meet with Paul to talk about what we should be doing to support him and what, if anything we expect from him in return.
 - He cannot be here this evening, but is planning to be at a meeting in the near future.
 - The search committee asks that we commit to a half time minister for at least a year, even if it means dipping into savings:
 - We have about \$35,000 in savings.
 - The shortfall in current year pledges was about \$10,000.
 - Be aware that we are going to need to work much harder on the canvass next time around.
 - Barbara moved that we commit to take sufficient money from savings, if necessary, to pay for a half time minister for the remainder of this fiscal year and the entire 2016-17 fiscal year. D'On seconds. Approved unanimously.
 - D'On and Karl continue to draft a proposed compensation package.
 - The search committee has been accepting applications. They will accept applications until the 15th of November and then begin interviewing.
 - New member ceremony:

- We have 4 people in this Sunday's Path to Membership class.
- New member ceremony: Dec. 13, Robyn will preside.
- Barbara will talk with class attendees and get in touch with Amber Hoffman.
- Barbara will tell the Engagement Committee.

- Baby naming
 - Dec. 6
 - The Ebensteiners are interested for Gwendolyn.
 - Parker Reedin is on the list.

- Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Smith-Thomas, Secretary

Next meeting: Dec. 10, 6:30 pm, tentatively at Paul's house