

WESTSIDE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
BOARD MINUTES: JANUARY 11, 2022

Members Present: Sue Anderson, Glenda Hood, Lauren Leising, Dwight Robarts, Daryel Sellers, Aimee Stubbs, Jeff Rodriguez. Also present: Nicci Kennedy, Carol Cappa, Kim Lucas Hart, Janell Weaver.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Dwight Robarts.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of December minutes
 - B. March Plate Offering: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Tarrant County (pending final approval from steering committee)
 - C. Committee Reports - None
- Sue Anderson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded and CARRIED.

2. FINANCIAL REPORTS - Dwight Robarts

- A. Our insurance company, Church Mutual, will be sending us a piece of equipment that will alert us if there is a water leak in the building. There is no cost for the system and it should not cost anything to install it.
- B. The building's insurance premiums have increased significantly in the last year. Dwight is looking into other carriers who may be able to provide better coverage for the same price, or comparable coverage for lower cost.
- C. The Safe Congregation Committee budget is in the red, but these expenses are being covered by donations from anonymous individuals.
- D. The Worship Committee budget also is ahead of projection. This is because we have purchased several pieces of new broadcast equipment.
- E. Expenses in the Water budget also are ahead of projection. This is because of all the new plants and trees that have been planted in the church courtyard. ACTION: The additional expense will be covered with money from the General Fund. No vote was necessary.
- F. Halfway through the fiscal year, we have received 68 percent of our contributions. Overall, we are in very good shape financially at this time.
- G. We had previously considered revising and increasing the value of the building so that we would have a more accurate picture of the church's overall finances. It was decided to table this action until, or if, we refinance the church loan, when we will have to pay to have an appraisal done.
- H. ACTION: Dwight moved to withdraw a proposal to use \$1,000 from the Betty Sanders Fund to cover the projected deficit in the Water Fund; the money instead will come from the General Fund.

3. DLRE REPORT - Nicci Kennedy

- A. Nicci shared several photos of church youth having fun at various outdoor RE activities.
- B. Due to the ongoing surge of Coronavirus cases, youth activities have moved back to being conducted virtually.
- C. The service day planned for MLK Day this month has been cancelled due to the pandemic. The planned project to improve our food pantry has also been postponed. The series on banned books will proceed as planned.

4. CONTINUING BUSINESS

- A. Reopening Task Force - Kim Lucas Hart: Due to the surge in Covid cases nationwide, she has recommended cancelling in-person church services. Our safety procedures are sound, we will need to make sure we are prepared to enforce them. ACTION: Her recommendation was accepted by the board, and the church was closed the week of January 9.
- B. The equipment for the new security system have arrived. Kim expects they will be installed by the end of February. She projects that operating the new system will cost the church about \$100 a month. The board will need to select a few individuals who can serve as representatives if the security company needs to contact us.
- C. Transition Team Update - Tanner Trask: He was not able to attend, no report.
- D. Strategic Action Plan Update - Sue: The task force is preparing a very short survey. The questions will seek input from members on how they think we can best capitalize on our strengths, and about their vision for the church. They also are planning to use the February 27 service as an opportunity to gather input from the congregation.
- E. The board discussed topics for next communication to congregation. Items: 1) The financial health of the church; 2) AV progress update; 3) Importance of healthy communication and right relations to members and employees during times of transition; 4) Spring campout (last weekend in March). ACTION: Dwight will draft the message.
- F. Clean up of “forgotten” funds - Dwight: Action has been taken on 10 of the funds discussed in previous board meetings. However, we still need to determine what to do with approximately \$11,000 earned in from previous church auctions. The board is interested in using the funds to buy new laptops for the church and fund increased hours for the church administrator. ACTION: Dwight will talk with Linda and Myron Ice, to make sure they are okay with reallocating funds, and then will solicit member input on the plan. Need new laptops for worship and office administrator
- G. Refinancing the mortgage: Tabled.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Broadcasting church services: Currently, we broadcast the services live on Facebook. Recordings of the service are posted on YouTube. Some members feel strongly that the church should not be using Facebook because of the company’s questionable business practices. ACTION: The board agreed that we will stick with the current process until we have a sufficient number of volunteers trained to run the current system, and then explore alternatives to Facebook.
- B. Our current administrator, Dawn McGee, has announced that she will be leaving the position soon. ACTION: Dwight will speak with Marc about how to proceed with writing a job description and getting it posted.

C. We have not yet found a professional to lead our pastoral care team. ACTION: Lauren Leising will contact TCU and its Brite Divinity School, Texas Wesleyan, UNT and Tarleton.
D. Pete Meador will be leaving his position as chair of the Membership Committee very soon. ACTION: Dwight will ask Marc to contact the Nominating Committee to help in finding a replacement.

Adjourned at 9:10 pm

Documents

[Treasurer's Report](#)

[Annual Budget Percentage Report](#)

[Revenue and Expenses](#)

[Statement of Financial Position](#)