

Called to Order: 4:09 p.m. by President Betsy Rush.

Board Attendees: Trustees (Position): Tom Mosher (1), Doug Deaton (2), Dick Burkhart (3),
Quorum Present Luba Johnston (5), Catherine Trestrail (6), and Betsy Rush (7)
Lilia Riordan-Rogers (4) was absent.
Minister/Chief Executive: Todd Eklof (ex-officio). Recording Secretary: Marilyn Johnson.

Agenda: Approved as presented.

Minutes: Minutes of the October 2023 Board meeting approved as presented.

Opening Words: T Eklof read Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. words, about pursuing peace and justice through peaceful means with respect for each other.

President's Report: None.

Minister's Report: T Eklof gave an update on his visits to other congregations over the last five months. He added a church in Jacksonville Florida and has been invited to a church in Salem Oregon.

The Spokane Faith-Based Committee provided Spokane City with recommendations on homelessness and crime. The committee is now looking for more community issues they could help with.

NAUA continues to provide services to UU congregations, especially on helping to identify new clergy. Since there is currently only 20% of normally available clergy, NAUA is trying to think outside-of-the-box.

UUA Board Meeting Report: D Burkhart shared information from the recent Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Board meeting and UUA Board Open House that he attended via Zoom. His report can be viewed on the church website, as part of this meeting's video.

Treasurer's Report: None.

Operations Team Report: None.

Shared Ministry Team Report: Lynn Jinishian reported that the Shared Ministry Team (SMT) will monitor the overall ministry and relational health of the church, shifting away from individual day-to-day concerns and towards a focus on bigger issues for the whole congregation (e.g., potentially leaving the UUA).

To better guide those with more specific questions/concerns, they will update the list of teams and groups and post information on who to talk to about different topics.

Possible UUA Withdrawal: The Shared Ministry Team's first project will be to conduct research, interview congregation members, etc. about the possibility of leaving the UUA. Then, report their findings (e.g. reasons to stay or leave) to the BoT.

After the Shared Ministry Team provides their report and before bringing this issue to the whole congregation, the BoT plans to discuss the findings and perform due diligence (e.g., impact on church staff, etc.) Any potential decision to leave the UUA would require a motion and vote by the entire congregation.

Shared Ministry Team members include Dick Gammon, John Beaten, Barbara Nelson, and Lynn Jinishian. Apparently, Anna Morrison is no longer interested in joining the team.

Policies & Procedures Project: T Mosher and Lynn Jinishian reported they had not received any feedback on the proposed changes.

T Mosher moved and L Johnston seconded that the Board of Trustees adopt the revised document with the new name "Policies and Procedures" and a few minor clean-up/typo edits. Discussion included a reminder that this is the board's living document, and the BoT can revise it at any time. The motion carried by unanimous consent without objection.

Memorial Garden ByLaw: Tabled until the January 2024 BoT meeting.

Old Business: B Rush recognized the BoT full slate of trustees. A replacement for C Trestrail is not being sought after.

Other Business: T Mosher moved and L Johnston seconded that due to the holiday season, the December BoT meeting be cancelled. The motion carried by unanimous consent without objection.

Adjourned: 5:37 p.m.

Next BoT Exec Committee Meeting: January 17, 2024 4:00 p.m. (C Trestrail floating Trustee)

Next BoT Meeting: January 24, 2024 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Submitted by Marilyn Johnson, Recording Secretary