

# First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2017

### 1. Roll Call

- a. Allan Callender, Phil Duran, Barb Lutz, Shelley Shreffler, Sue Tincher, Katrina Lassegard, Joyce Riedesel, Jim Foti, David Breeden via Skype

### 2. Consent agenda

- a. The agenda was approved as written.
- b. The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

### 3. Information: Space and Place

- a. The governance Committee is looking at the current policy with an eye to the ministers' input.

### 4. Information: Communications Brainstorm: Katrina

- a. The Retreat in October. Sue and Holly were unable to attend and no formal notes were taken, so the Board went over what each remembered.
  - a. The strategy going forward after the capital campaign for FUS.
  - b. The overall trend in the US to declining church attendance. The realities of religion in the US. Different demographic groups look for different things.

### 5. Staff reports: David

- a. The report from Music is in the Dropbox.
- b. Attendance has been strong. The election helped. Broadness of programing is very good.
- c. Chris Stedman is transitioning to the Humanist Center.

### 6. Assistant Minister Report: Jim

- a. Programming changes have gone very well. There is something at 9:30 and at noon every Sunday.
- b. Adele is coordinating reading groups.

### 7. Treasurers report: Allan

- a. We had a very high target for December pledge revenue and we made it and made up ground on the YTD deficit. Stewardship is looking aggressively at pledges. The concern is the December activity could make January anemic. Expense control still important.
- b. Bank is ready to sign off on the line of credit for Capital Campaign next week.
- c. The Finance Policy has been presented by the Finance Committee. The previous policy was reviewed and edited to remove irrelevant or out of date issues.
  - a. Shelley pointed out some issues that may need further editing. Reimbursing nonprofit organizations needs to be edited.

- b. Preparation of the annual budget needs more communication to the members.
- c. Shelley volunteered to work on the revisions the Board would like to see.

**8. Capital Campaign report: Mike**

- a. We are \$60,000 short of the final goal. Greg Giles is confident that the final amount will be reached.
- b. The current time line was presented
- c. The contract with Watson Forsberg has been signed and the material ordering has started. Mike moved to ratify the decision of the Executive Committee to sign the contract. Shelley seconded. Unanimous
- d. Ground breaking celebration on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>.
- e. Gaia is holding out for a better deal on rent, so they are reluctant to move out of their space.

**9. Future Events**

- a. Next meeting is February 22<sup>th</sup>.
- b. Annual meeting set for Wednesday, May 17, 2017. We will also consider holding the meeting after Assembly on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**10. Appreciations**

- a. Gene Martinez for the smoothing the process of the changes in the Forum.
- b. Allen Callander for working with Gaia on the renovation.

**11. Meeting adjourned at 8:22**