

First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2015

I. Call to order

Mike Illes called to order the regular meeting of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis Board of Trustees at 6:27 p.m. on February 25, 2015 in the Dietrich Room.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Mike Illes (chair), Allan Callander (treasurer), Sue Tincher (secretary), Madalyn Cioci, Scott Eller, JD Rickard, Joyce Riedesel, Nick Rowse, Rev. David Breeden, Jim Foti (assistant minister) and Jim Tincher (FUS member).

III. Announcements/Appreciations

The following were appreciated: David Breeden and Jim Foti for showing ministerial support by integrating the message of stewardship into their talks (thanked by Scott Eller on behalf of the Stewardship Committee); the FUS in-house band, the Eclectics, and the Congregational Life team for the fun concert on Sunday; FUS member Greg Mansfield for rewiring the network.

IV. Consent agenda

Nick Rowse moved to approve the consent agenda, and Joyce Riedesel seconded. The motion passed to approve the consent agenda, including:

- Minutes of the 1/28/15 Board of Trustees meeting.
- Recognition of new FUS members Michelle Gaiter and Yusef Gaiter.

V. Reports and Discussion

a) Jim Tincher's Journey Mapping proposal: Jim has a business doing customer experience and journey mapping work. He proposes to look at the journey of the church seeker, doing three focus groups with three different types of seekers: those who have found a home here; those who have landed here, but are not completely committed; and those who visited FUS but then went elsewhere. Jim has met with David, Jim, and Wendy Reynolds and they agreed this would be a welcome study, so a kickoff has been scheduled for March 8. The only cost would possibly be a cash or other incentive for the people who went elsewhere, plus some limited supplies and/or printing. There is a team of people to help out with this--we could use one more Board member on the team.

- b) Treasurer's Report/January Financials:** Treasurer Allan Callander reported that we made up \$6,000 of our year-to-date pledge revenue deficit last month, and we are now at \$15,000 below our budget. Total revenue for the month was \$55,800 and expenses were \$58,700. We are getting new pledge activity and more payment on existing pledges. Expense were high due to a \$6,500 payment to Gilbert Mechanical. Allan shared the letter he has drafted to inform committees who are having money removed from designated funds. Allan moved to amend the drawdown amounts we passed last month, to the following amounts: Membership: \$1,500; Service Auction: \$1,000; Seasonal Celebrations: \$500; Religious Education, \$1,000; Music \$3,000; Social Justice: \$4,000. Scott seconded. The motion passed. There was some discussion of wording changes for the letter, which Allan noted.
- c) Stewardship/Capital Campaign:** Scott Eller reported on the Stewardship campaign. We have heard from 57 of 236 pledging units. The Stewardship Committee is going to try some new things. Scott's message will be more direct this Sunday. Joyce reported that the Capital Campaign Task Force is coming right along. They have narrowed the areas of focus and are assembling numbers for the Capital Campaign plan.
- d) Minister's Report:** Minister David Breeden said that we are working on getting a childcare coordinator to work one hour a week to coordinate the hiring of babysitters. We are still looking for a building manager. We are working on a plan for special needs kids, including possibly hiring an assistant for one child, depending on liability issues. The credit card kiosk is working out, but needs someone to take ownership of it. David is speaking at Minnetonka this Sunday, on the 55th anniversary of Carl Storm speaking at the founding of that church.
- e) Assistant Minister:** Jim has been working on congregational care. He learned about congregational conflict at the conference he attended in California. He said he would be open to expanding his hours next year if the opportunity was there.
- f) Jim Foti's Ordination/Installation Update:** The Ordination team has heads of all the subcommittees. Paper invitations have gone out to FUS members not on email. It is now an ordination/*installation*. It is on Saturday, April 11 at 2pm.

g) Board Business

- h) Member concerns:** No member concerns expressed.
- i) Governance Task Force/Thank You Process.** It was suggested that we should have a formal thank-you and a review of the accomplishments of the governance

task force as it transitions to a governance committee. Joyce moved to dissolve the Governance Task Force. Allan seconded. The motion passed.

j) Naming Rights for Donors. The Governance Committee discussed this at its meeting Saturday—at that meeting, it was decided not to recommend a written policy until more thought is put into it. But since the Capital Campaign Task Force requested guidance from the Board, Sue moved that our guidance is that donors may solely name spaces after important historical figures in UU or FUS past. Madalyn seconded. The motion did not pass. JD moved that the Board feels that naming rights given to individuals is counter to the democratic foundation of the First Unitarian Society. The motion passed.

k) Select Annual Meeting Team. The team will be tasked with making sure the logistics happen, including handouts, AV, the meal, and so on. It will also work with the Nominations Committee to prepare a slate of trustees, and a slate of people for the new Aesthetics Committee. The team will be Martha Hardesty, Allan Callander, Madalyn Cioci, and Joyce Riedesel.

l) The Leadership Team meeting will be held on Saturday morning, March 21.

VI. Adjournment

Mike Illes adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

VII. Things to know

1. Journey mapping proposal
2. Governance Task Force (GTF) transition
3. Capital Campaign Task Force
4. Annual Meeting Team
5. Leadership Team meeting Mar 21.
6. Stewardship Campaign
7. Ordination/installation Apr 11

VIII. Task list

- a) Allan will call HR consultant Pat Langan.
- b) Martha will convene the annual meeting team.
- c) Mike will figure out the GTF thank you and appreciation.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Tincher