

# First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2015

### I. Call to order

Mike Illes called to order the regular meeting of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis Board of Trustees at 6:34 p.m. on May 20, 2015 in the Dietrich Room.

### II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Mike Illes (chair), Allan Callander (treasurer), Sue Tinchler (secretary), Holly Anderson, Phil Duran, Scott Eller, Katrina Lassegard, Joyce Riedesel, Nick Rowse, and Rev. David Breeden.

### III. Announcements/Appreciations

Allan Callander's budget presentation at the Annual Meeting was appreciated. The good, efficient work of the Annual Meeting volunteers was appreciated. The work of the Nominations Committee was appreciated, as they met many times, came up with a great slate of Board nominees, and secured all that they asked. Mike Illes received many emails congratulating him on the success of the Annual Meeting. Barb Brooks was appreciated for making the Chalice Choir vibrant and fun.

### IV. Consent agenda

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

- Minutes of the April Board of Trustees meeting.
- Minutes of the Annual Meeting, as edited by the FUS Board secretary.
- Recognition of new FUS members Patricia Heim, Ann Dixon and Keith Dixon.

### V. Reports and Discussion

a) **Minister's Report:** Rev. David Breeden has a meeting at 7:00 p.m. tonight for the Committee for Social Witness for the UUA General Assembly (GA), so will miss the middle portion of the board meeting. Member/Youth Coordinator/Media Coordinator Kevin Jagoe plans to embark on UU ministerial study at Meadville Lombard Theological School. Nick moved that we endorse Kevin Jagoe for the Meadville Lombard Theological School. Allan seconded. The motion passed. David and human resources consultant Pat Langan are almost done with the HR manual. It should be ready for the new contract year starting July 1. David is

considering the Director of Religious Education performance review. The issue is that the other staff do not work closely enough with her to evaluate her performance, so we may want to use some parental input. David is pulling Summer Assemblies together. A chief goal for next year will be more offerings for seniors during the day. He proposed that a “lay leadership development” budget line be included in next year’s budget process.

- b) Treasurer’s Report/April Financials:** Treasurer Allan Callander reported that the pledge revenue for the month is \$9,000 behind budget, and \$21,000 behind for the year. Expenses for the month were \$5,000 over budget for the month, and \$22,000 over budget for the year. Year-to-date, we have a cushion of \$3,800. Unless things change, we risk running a deficit for the year. The biggest problem is the lagging pledge revenue. The Stewardship Committee found that about 18 pledge units are behind about \$21,000 for the year. These 18 pledge units will get a somewhat pointed email reminder next week. It was brought up that the main message should be prominently contained in the email body, not just in the attachment. We discussed the fact that it is very expensive to send people to Midwest Leadership School and to General Assembly, sometimes with little return to the institution. We discussed different ways to avoid a deficit situation for the end of the fiscal year. The basic feeling was that out of about \$12,000 of possible discretionary spending remaining in the last six weeks of the fiscal year, it would be reasonable to ask the staff to cut spending by about 20%. It was felt that this should be done at the behest of David, as head of staff. It was also felt that a good start would be for the staff to sit down together and discuss ways to save out of their own budgets. Holly Anderson moved that David be asked to save at least \$2,500 of the discretionary spending left in the budget. Nick seconded. The motion passed. Allan said that we have been informed that we will be receiving a check from the bequest of member Clement Engen in the amount of \$91,000. Pledge statements now will come via email, rather than postal mail.
- c) Annual Meeting Recap:** Everyone was happy that the meeting was productive and short. Attendance was excellent at 107.
- d) Board Calendar:** We discussed the new Board Calendar, developed by the Governance Committee to serve as a month-by-month guide to Board activities. Allan noted that the insurance review should be changed to September. Sue Tincher will make that and a few other changes noted and post it in the Dropbox.
- e) Listening sessions for Capital Campaign Task Force:** The listening sessions for the CCTF are occurring on June 7 (noon), June 9 (7 p.m.), and June 14 (noon).

These are opportunities for members to offer feedback on the Capital Campaign plan. Board members are encouraged to attend.

## **VI. Board Business**

- a) **Member concerns:** None voiced.
- b) **Election of officers/Foundation liaison:** Joyce moved that the slate of Chair Mike Illes, Vice-Chair Scott Eller, Treasurer Allan Callander, and Secretary Sue Tincher be elected. The motion passed. Phil Duran nominated Joyce Riedesel as the Board liaison to the Foundation Board, and Holly seconded it. The motion passed. Board members of standing committees are as follows: Scott on Nominations; Katrina Lassegard and Allan on Stewardship; Allan on Finance; and Mike and Sue on Governance. The Board appointed Nick to join the Governance Committee.
- c) **Delegates to General Assembly:** Phil moved that FUS's official delegates to GA be Polly Peterson, Kevin Jagoe, Gene Martinez (electronic delegate), Stacy Grenier, Cheryl Moline, Bill Weir (electronic delegate), and Wendy Reynolds. Allan seconded it. The motion passed.

## **VII. Thinking ahead**

- a) **Task Force proposal** – Wendy Jerome and Ruth Agar are coming in June to propose a Disruptive Persons Policy Task Force.
- b) **Board retreat** – Sue will get out a Doodle poll
- c) **Summer Programming** – summer services will start at 10:30 a.m.
- d) **Adjournment:** Mike Illes adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Tincher