

# First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2015

### I. Call to order

Mike Illes called to order the regular meeting of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis Board of Trustees at 6:39 p.m. on December 16, 2015 in the Frank Lloyd Wright Room.

### II. Roll call

The following were present: Mike Illes (chair), Scott Eller (vice chair), Sue Tincher (secretary), Holly Anderson, Phil Duran, Joyce Riedesel, Nick Rowse, Rev. David Breeden, and Assistant Minister Jim Foti.

### III. Consent agenda

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

- Minutes of the November Board of Trustees meeting
- Recognition of new FUS members: Kristina Blomquist and Eamon Rice

### IV. Reports and Discussion

**a) Treasurer's Report/November Financials:** Mike reported that November revenue was \$54,700, or \$600 favorable to budget, and expenses were \$54,500, or \$3,700 favorable to budget. Pledges were up substantially in November in response to the pledge statements that were sent in October.

**b) Ministerial Team Report:** Rev. David Breeden and Assistant Minister Jim Foti reported that Sunday morning attendance and participation in programming during the Sunday noon slot are both strong. Shelli Hesselroth, the new finance director, is acclimating well. Assistant building steward Felipe Hernandez has left for a full-time position, and we have hired a new assistant steward, Jeff Golden. David will encourage the Religious Education committee to start a search committee for a new Director of Religious Education for next year. We will have two intern ministers starting next August. Youth Director Kevin Jagoe will lead the service on Christmas Eve. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:03. Executive Session adjourned at 7:11.

**c) Capital Campaign Update:** Mike reported that there was a meeting of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee on Monday. They got the first sketches from the architect, Ed Kodet. He will share details of the plan with the congregation at a Forum on January 31. The Building and Grounds Team, the

Aesthetics Team, and the Board will see the plans before Forum, at a meeting on January 28. The Board will change our regular January meeting from Wednesday, January 27 to Thursday, January 28 at 6pm, so that we don't have to come to meetings two evenings in a row. We will convene the Board meeting at 6pm, adjourn at 7pm to participate in the architect meeting, and then re-convene the Board meeting when the architect meeting is over. The congregational vote will happen on February 21. Letters announcing this vote will go out in mid-January.

**d) Dietrich Celebration:** The year 2016 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of John Dietrich to FUS. This is a good tie-in with the positivity surrounding the capital campaign. It would make sense to have a big celebration, maybe with a big-name speaker.

## **V. Board Business**

**a) Service Auction Proposals:** Scott Eller brought up the point that in the past, there sometimes has not been enough thought put into where service auction proceeds go. There is a group consensus that about half the money stays with FUS and half goes to other social justice organizations. In some years, due to a dearth of proposals, the half of the money that went to other organizations went to places that might not have been chosen with a more robust field of applicants. Scott proposed that the ministry team and Social Justice Minister Kelli Clement propose one or two organizations to receive the other half. This will be more focused and more intentional than our old system. The Board will approve their proposal at the January Board meeting. This year, the Bid-a-Need at the service auction will be a projection system for the Upper Assembly Hall.

**b) Member concerns:** It was brought up that when people are attending meetings remotely via phone, it is hard to hear. Possible solutions are using Skype or a using a speaker attached to a cell phone or purchasing a conference phone.

**c) Adjournment:** Mike Illes adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

## **VI. Action items:**

**a) Dietrich Celebration:** Phil, Holly Anderson, and Nick Rowse will have a discussion about this.

**b) Service Auction Proposals:** David and Jim Foti and Kelli Clement will come up with a proposal for one or two social justice organizations to receive the outgoing portion of service auction proceeds this year.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Tinch