

# **First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis**

## **Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

October 25, 2017

### **I. Call to order**

Phil Duran called to order the regular meeting of the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis Board of Trustees at 6:30 p.m. on October 25, 2017 in the Dietrich Room.

### **II. Roll call**

The following were present: Phil Duran (chair), Allan Callander (treasurer), Joyce Riedesel (secretary), Kim Horton, Barb Lutz, Joyce Riedesel, Sue Tincher, Rev. David Breeden, Assistant Minister Jim Foti and ministerial intern Jane Smith.

### **III. Announcements/Appreciations**

The following appreciation was shared:

- Religious Education teacher Lynn Borden, for her taking the Neighboring Faiths class in hand and making the class possible this fall, which would have been too difficult for the incoming Director of Religious Education due to its complexity

### **IV. Consent agenda**

Barb Lutz moved to approve the consent agenda, and Kim Horton seconded. The motion passed to approve the consent agenda, including:

- minutes of the September Board of Trustees meeting

### **V. Reports and Discussion**

**a) Treasurer's Report/September Financials:** Treasurer Allan Callander reported that we are running about \$12,000 behind in member contributions compared to our budget. Another big deficiency is that we are deprived of \$4,000 in revenue from Gaia School in September, since they were given that month's rental free due to the delay in the renovations. Our total expenses for the first three months of the fiscal year were about \$159,000, fairly close to budget. The total deficit is between \$15,000-\$20,000. The credit card kiosk in the Lower Assembly Hall has not been working since the renovations, due to problems connecting to WiFi, but it will be fixed by Sunday. We do not have full financial reports right now, since the new finance director, Hai Vu, is making some corrections requested by the Finance Committee last week.

- b) Ministerial Team Report:** Rev. David Breeden reported that attendance started strong this fall but has tapered. The “open’s” of his Friday emails continue to grow. Director of Religious Education Laura Carpenter set a new bar for staff reports with a 7-page report with captioned photos. Barb Brooks is planning on having a Sunday singing gathering, in addition to her Chalice and FUS Choirs. Ministerial Intern Jane Smith says the young adult group is going very well. Assistant Minister Jim Foti is going to the UUA MidAmerica Region’s Large Congregation Conference next week in Chicago and will focus on congregational life and membership.
- c) Construction/Capital Campaign Report:** Allan gave us an update. Most things are complete, although the final walk-through has yet to happen. Some window trim still needs to be done. There are some gouges in the tiles in the gallery—the space outside the Upper Assembly Hall—caused by the contractors which need to be fixed. The contractors will pay for the repair, and one solution they put forward was laying carpet in the space. The point was raised that this would be a safer floor surface than the tile currently there, which is very slippery when wet. Barb Lutz moved that we accept Watson-Forsberg’s solution and put carpet in the gallery. Allan Callander seconded. The motion carried. The Capital Campaign Committee recently met and got outgoing chair Greg Giles’ recommendations on moving forward. The general thinking is to resume fundraising after a hiatus. The groundwork is being laid to make that happen. We have paid out \$3.4 million so far on the project. The next-door neighbor, Groveland Gallery, has sent a letter indicating some damage occurred from the vibrations from the construction, in the form of tiles falling off their roof. They ask for about \$3,900 for repairs. There will be a meeting tomorrow to discuss this, but the general feeling on the board was that this should be paid, though the connection cannot be proved, in the spirit of being good neighbors.

**VI. Upcoming dates:**

The November meeting will be on November 15. The December meeting will be on December 27.

**VII. Adjournment:** Phil adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sue Tincher