

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington
Board of Trustees (BOT)
Meeting Minutes, November 2017**

Date: November 20, 2017, 6:00 PM

Location: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, 4313 Lake Ave., Wilmington, NC 28403.

Acting Secretary: Bill Singleton.

Meeting Called By: Jennifer Paetzold-Garcia, President.

Members Attending: John Grigsby, Vice President; Karen Gottovi, Treasurer; Patricia Forrest; Bill Singleton; Barbara Wolk; Don Smith.

Absent: Jennifer Paetzold-Garcia, Tammy Ellison, Bob Holm

Staff: Rev. Cheryl M. Walker (Ex-Officio), Sue Graffius, DRE.

Guest: Warren Elliott.

Agenda

- 1) Chalice Lighting and Reading of the Mission Statement and Board Covenant
Mission of the UUCW Board of Trustees: Ensure that the activities and resources of the congregation are effectively and efficiently directed toward achieving the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington.
- 2) Guest: Warren Elliott addressed the Board about publicizing the Share the Plate figures.
- 3) Reports
 - a) Consensus reports: the Minutes from the Board, dated October 16, and the Minister's, DRE's and Treasurer's reports from November were approved.
- 4) Treasurer's Update: Karen reported that the Endowment, invested with the UUA's Socially Responsible Investments, has increased by \$2,000.
- 5) Stewardship Committee
 - a) Rev. Cheryl informed the Board that Sylvia Quinn is the Committee chair. Committee members are expected to serve more than one year. The Committee is working to change the culture of giving at the church. They will do a canvass this year. All members will read the same book that the Board has read: *Creating Congregations of Generous People* by Michael Durall.
 - b) A distinction that the Committee will address is that a church faces technical and adaptive problems in raising funds. A canvass is a technical problem. However, changing the culture of the church toward giving is an adaptive problem.
- 6) The BOT/Congregation Linkage Conversation held on 11/5 was not well attended.
- 7) Holiday Staff Collection: the Board will assist in collection from the congregation to give the church staff of ten people a holiday gift.

8) Calendar Events

- a) Jennifer sent out an updated calendar.
- b) The Board will collect for the staff on Dec. 3 and 10.
- c) The Board will serve as greeters and provide hospitality through coffee and snacks on Dec. 10.

9) Policy Work

- a) The Board agreed to hold new policy work for the December 4 work session to allow more of the Board to participate.

10) Church Website and Email

- a) Rev. Cheryl told the Board that the website and email are being updated. The website will convert to Wordpress software. She asked for Board agreement to spend up to \$3,000 on the transition to a new site to be hosted by Tagonline.com. The Board unanimously approved her request.
- b) Rev. Cheryl's plan is to complete the website and email transition by the end of the year.

11) BOT Calendar

- a) The next scheduled meeting will be:
 - i) December 4: Work Session
 - ii) December 11: BOT Exec. Committee Meeting
 - iii) December 18: full BOT Meeting

12) The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

NEXT BOT MEETING: December 18, 2017.

*** ACTION ITEMS AND DEFERRED TOPICS**

From October Meeting:

- Tammy will submit minutes for publication on the web site and will post in Dobkin Hall.

Future Action

- Develop a Bylaw amendment to the Endowment Policy to make the management and access to the existing endowment more flexible.

MINISTER'S REPORT FOR BOARD MEETING 11-20-2017

We had a *Welcome Class* in October. There were 16 people in attendance. Met with Diane Miller after the class to discuss ways to change some of the sessions. The last session goes too long and we are thinking about putting together a booklet and having less presenters.

Began *This I Believe* class. We have 12 participants.

We switched phone and internet service from AT&T to Spectrum. There are some issues with voice mail that will be resolved.

We are finalizing a change in web hosts. We will do an upgrade to the software and the look of the website when we move. We will also revisit our email lists, uunews and uubulletin board to see if there are better ways to communicate.

Met with Sylvia Quinn to discuss a new group that will lead us into a culture of generosity. We suggested a few names and hope to have a group together by the end of November. We are not sure what to call the group as Stewardship has the reputation of a Canvass group.

Attended a Webinar on a One Day Canvass. Sylvia and I both came away with many ideas.

Met with Finance Committee, we will pursue setting up accepting mobile donations during worship service. This will happen after we move the website and email.

Worked with Melton McLaurin on his upcoming worship service. It should be very interesting.

Volunteered for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard at Harris Teeter asking people to buy items for the pantry.

Led the UUMA Board of Trustee meeting in Kansas City, MO. It was a great meeting and we spent our time together on policy, mission and vision. There were follow up online meetings with representatives from

Met online with UU Ministers of Canada to help them reimagine their Executive team structure that moves beyond the dominant culture models. We discuss how the UUMA Board is changing to be more inclusive of other cultures.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Cheryl M. Walker

DLRE Report to the Board November 2017

October/November attendance:

October weekly average: 20

November weekly average (through 11/12): 21

We had a very successful Halloween Coffee Hour, with all ages enjoying themselves. Much appreciation for Sally Spalding, Ed Brophy, Martha Brophy and Kat Fairbank for learning-and playing-the theme song to *Ghostbusters* for our parade around the sanctuary! The 3rd-7th graders' food drive was amazingly successful!

Classes are going well, with the 8th-12th graders still meeting in Rev. Cheryl's office, with her gracious welcome.

I have found a teacher (Kami O'Keeffe) to join the preschool teaching team in January!

Our annual **Tree Trimming Party** will be held on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2-5 pm. ALL ages are encouraged to come and make ornaments and decorate our tree!

Classroom 1 has been painted and looks crisp and cool!

The teen class will attend Quest on Dec. 3rd. They have made several suggestions for subject ideas, and are looking forward to participating. They are also looking into several service projects for the new year.

The fall *Welcome! Class* was well attended and was informative and fun.

This I Believe is going extremely well, and the group is very engaged and engaging.

The *Listening in Color* book discussion on Jodi Picoult's *Small Great Things* was well-received.

We are gearing up for the holidays and hope for good attendance at both the **Tree Trimming** and **Christmas Eve Nativity Pageant!** Join us!

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Graffius, DLRE

Treasurer's Report: October 2017

The Finance Committee met Thursday, November 9. Members attending include Rev. Cheryl, Fred Campau, Marvin Fineman, Don Wood, and John Grigsby. I chair the committee.

We appointed Marvin Fineman to be Assistant Treasurer, and he will continue to be on the Schwab account along with Karen Gottovi. This committee meets on an "as needed" basis.

The October Budget Comparison with variance chart shows that the UUCW is ahead in revenues this year, as opposed to last year at this time, and almost on target with our budget. Our expenditures exceeded revenues by about \$2,200 this month.

Karen Gottovi, Treasurer