

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Wilmington, North Carolina  
Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2023**

**Attending:**

Robert Demko, Jane Horrell, Jerry Hurwitz, Jeannie Lennon, Gary O'Connell, Becki Schreiber,

Absent: Kathy Gillcrist, Raine Morgan, Fran Strauss

Ex-Officio: Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt

Guests: Christine Purcell (UUS) and Committee for Ministry representatives: Margaret Armstrong, Scott Armstrong, Jimmy Reeves

**Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:15, kicked off with a reading by Rev. Kathy and chalice lighting.**

**Financial Report:**

The Board voted to accept the Financial Report as presented.

**Director of Lifelong Education Report:** As families and children return to the congregation, Reverend Kathy will address the potential need for nursery care. The Board voted to accept the report as presented.

**Calendar:**

Becki to send an email following the meeting. Some items to be aware of:

March 19	BOT-led worship service
March 26	Proposed all-congregation meeting

The Board discussed the process of allowing on-line (Zoom) participation at the January 15 all-congregation special meeting and the plans to proceed at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was decided that on-line voting should be permitted by members. Participants were checked in and monitored throughout the meeting by Board member(s). The Board approved the process for both the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as the upcoming March 26 meeting.

**Search:**

Christine Purcell Transitions Program Manager with UUA joined the meeting at 5:30pm. After a short introduction, she provided a presentation that offered a high-level education and preparation for the settled minister search.

Christine advised there are two ways to proceed-

- Competitive Election (approximately 10)
- Board Selected- once the Board has selected candidates, they're voted upon (approximately 7)

Once the committee is established, the Board largely leaves them to their work. The Congregational Record is our chance to tell our story (think dating profile). The Search is narrowed down to three pre-candidates in January. There will be pre-candidate visits. The Search Team will attend/view guest services in February/March. There will likely be more ministers shopping than congregations needing.

Christine advised to trust the congregation to select the Search Committee, and stressed the need for communication. Christine to provide assistance and/or samples of forms, applications, questions,

calendar with timeline of expectations, and various other resources. Additionally, she has Open House hours open to the Board and the Search Committee members.

The biggest deciding factors for ministers are:

1. Compensation
2. Geography
3. Self-awareness of the congregation (where's the work to be done?)

Christine logged off at 6:15pm and we returned to the regular meeting.

Jimmy, representing the Committee for Ministry, graciously offered assistance. Surveys, cottage meetings, Google form, etc.

There are two methods to consider: The UUA method, in which every member of the congregation is called. Or ask for applications and nominations.

Fran, Jane, Kathy G and Robert all felt calling every member of the congregation was too time consuming and unnecessary. After further discussion, it was clear that the majority of the Board did not want to proceed with UUA's suggested method. It was decided that a communication to the congregation should include a form/application with a description that's simple and condensed. The Board creates the form, likely a Google document. Becki to reach out to Christine at UUA for a suggestions and/or samples of applications. Jerry and Jeannie will draft an email to send to the congregation.

**Executive Report:**

Discussion ensued regarding Julie Burcham's departure and subsequent replacement. Jerry offered his assistance.

**Campus Update:**

Gary shared that the assessments are continuing. Siding and roofing quotes are in the works. Two contractors noted that it looks like water is getting into the eaves, thus this item has been added to the campus assessment list.

Adjourn @ 7:25pm

Next meeting February 21 at 5:15pm.