

Minutes of the July 8 2012 Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Harrisonburg Unitarian Universalists, Harrisonburg, VA

Members Present: Les Grady, Jim Hollowood, Paul Revell, Jennifer Spiller

Members Absent: Tom Endress, Willow Kelly

The resignation of Norma Wise from the Board was noted.

Minutes of the June meeting of the Board were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Hollowood presented the Treasurer's Report, dated 7/2/2012, which had been distributed to the Board via e-mail prior to the meeting. The main item noted was that Fiscal Year 2012 closed out with a surplus of \$9,177.52 in the Operating Fund. \$8,000 of that amount was transferred to Building Reserves and \$1,177.52 was transferred to Operating Reserves.

Old Business:

1. Board Structure
 - a. The structure of the Board, discussed at the last meeting, was again discussed.
 - b. Jim Hollowood moved that Jennifer Spiller serve as President of the Board throughout this fiscal year and that Les Grady serve as Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Paul Revell. The motion carried unanimously.
 - c. Jennifer Spiller moved that Norma Wise not be replaced on the Board. Jim Hollowood seconded the motion. The reason for this action was that Norma was in her last year on the Board and that it would be hard to bring a new person up to speed before the term ended. It was also noted that a quorum for the Board is four (4) members, which can be met with two (2) members absent even if Norma is not replaced. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Growth Task Force
 - a. Jim Hollowood reported on a preliminary analysis he has done of space needs and their potential impacts on growth of HUU.
 - b. Jennifer Spiller reported that she has a report from the Shared Ministry Team (SMT) on growth. She will share it with the Board.
 - c. The possibility of forming a Task Force on Growth was discussed. Some noteworthy ideas were:
 - i. Need to involve as many people as possible.
 - ii. Cottage meetings or caucuses would be good ways to get input from many people.
 - iii. The MPA program at JMU has a class that works with nonprofit organizations (including churches) to help them do programmatic reviews and strategic planning. This might be a way for us to receive guidance in preparing for growth.
 - d. Before establishing a Growth Task Force the Board needs to have an initial idea about the alternatives open to HUU. Jim Hollowood

volunteered to expand on his preliminary analysis to serve that end. The goal is for him to complete that expansion prior to the September Board meeting. This would provide time for the Board to review it, discuss it, and modify it as needed in September, allowing it to be transmitted to the SMT for their input by the November Board meeting. We could then move to the next level after that. The Board agreed to this plan.

Committee Reports:

1. Sunday Services: Jennifer Spiller reported that the Sunday Services Committee is considering moving the time of the services to 9:00 AM for the remainder of the Summer. Should they decide to do so, the Board approves.
2. CYCORE: Julie Caran submitted a written report dated 7/8/2012. Julie is discussing changes in Pax's hours and wages with the Personnel Committee.
3. Buildings and Grounds:
 - a. Charlie Strickler is planning for the installation of the shelves that Julie purchased for the RE building.
 - b. Merle Wenger plans to buy two (2) picnic tables for the deck of the RE building.
 - c. After the storm last week Charlie Strickler and Les Grady looked at and discussed the state of the trees on the property. They need to be pruned and cared for. Paul Revell said he would suggest some arborists that we can contact. Paul also warned that our large trees are ash trees and that an insect that is destructive to such trees is moving into this area. The trees will need to be treated on an annual basis to prevent their death. This is something else we need to prepare for with an arborist.
 - d. Because of the state of the trees the B&G Committee recommends that we plan to start planting new trees. It was noted during discussion that this perhaps should wait until the Growth Task Force is formed and reports.
 - e. Charlie Strickler and Les Grady examined the use of our property by the neighbors to the east. While HUU has long allowed them to park cars and keep a picnic table under the tree, we need to ensure that such use does not make us vulnerable to adverse possession. Les volunteered to look into this.
4. Caring Circle: No report.
5. Membership: No report.
6. Fellowship: No report.
7. Social Justice: Paul Revell reported that the SJ Committee is working to prepare fact sheets about each organization we help through the Dana Collection. The plan is to provide the fact sheets to the membership prior to each Dana Collection. The SJ Committee is also working on immigration issues.
8. Adult RE: Alice Krech will be presenting a series on the authors of the Bible in the fall. Additional plans are being developed.
9. Welcoming Congregation: They have requested several dates during the 9:00 AM hour in the fall.
10. Shared Ministry: No report.

New Business:

1. The Board discussed the heat in the building during the summer and the impact on attendance. They charged the Buildings and Grounds Committee with obtaining estimates for air conditioning the main building.
2. The Board wishes to have the metal folding chairs disposed of in best manner possible since we no longer need them. One suggestion was that they be made available to the members for a nominal fee. The Building and Grounds Committee is asked to pursue this.
3. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is also asked to dispose of all broken and unserviceable chairs.
4. After all excess chairs are removed, the Buildings and Grounds Committee is asked to evaluate our storage situation so that the office can be made more usable.

Submitted by Les Grady, acting scribe. July 10, 2012