UU Detroit Board Meeting Minutes
for June 25, 2022, 12:00 – 1:37 pm
over Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87030355779

Covenant - **Read individually (on mute except one person)**

We covenant to work together in honesty, kindness and respect for each other as we carry out our elected responsibilities to do the business of this church to the best of our abilities. We are a religious community. Let us move forward in love.

Attending:

Scott Lehto, President
Mark Tade, Vice President (excused absence)
Dan Secrest, Immediate Past President
Julie Brock, Minister
Steven Curtin, Trustee
Eric Gardner, Trustee (excused absence)
Jody Wise, Trustee
Dan Wiest, Trustee (excused absence)
Andrea Esu, Trustee (excused absence)
Nancy Shattuck, Secretary

There was a quorum

Review Minutes and Today's Agenda.

- Scott Lehto reviewed the agenda, and it was accepted with changes.
- The minutes for April 2022 with changes were moved, seconded and passed unanimously.
- The minutes for May 2022 with changes were moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Finances

- Dan Wiest sent a report of the monthly finances. Pledges are below budget for both the month and YTD, but non-pledge contributions have increased. The Prentis lot income is delayed a month because Motor City still mails their checks to Bob Lauer, who then forwards them to Dan Wiest.

- Regarding expenses, the building maintenance expense of $696 is for the three industrial fans and the “other” expense of $747 is for Rev. Murray’s farewell party.
- The YTD deficit variance is about the same as the church’s contribution towards the McCollister Hall floors.
- Our ongoing budget has a negative balance, with the conclusion that we need new members.

Grass cutting

- Scott Lehto cut the grass before Al Ackers Memorial, and EMEAC said they were going to cut it, but we don’t know how often.

Ministerial contract update

- The ministerial contract was signed by Dan Wiest, Dan Secrest and Julie Brock.
- Dan Secrest will post it on Google Drive.

Ministers Report

- Julie Brock proposed the first services at UU, and she will talk to the worship committee about this. For the first service in August, the board will introduce Julie. On the second Sunday, Julie Brock will talk about why we need community, and she asks that the board support this effort by giving their voices to welcoming the congregation back. *We are ready; are you ready?* The third week can be a congregational homecoming to call people back who left the church because of the COVID pandemic. *She is coming home. The congregation is coming home.*
- Julie Brock says her friends will be coming to church with babies, and she asks us to be very welcoming.

Project Status

Social Media

- Scott Lehto opened a snap chat for the church. But we need to have advertising. He has posted documents to the site. We need a video.
- Jody Wise brought up that if we can find one other person to work on that. A young person preferably.
- Nancy Shattuck brought up that video media can be done on a cell phone with an app called InShot. Probably if she is replaced, that should be a requirement for the office administrator.
- Scott brought up repurposing some of the video clips we already have. Then go on from there.
- Make a video of the church tour that’s coming up.

Advertising

- Jody did send out notices to her community though we didn’t meet the objective for advertising in the Cass area. Had the posters but there was no one to distribute them around town.

- Coffee shops are good places to post them.
- We did get two posters done and they were ready to go out. We can use it for the August services. We will have time to distribute them.
- Scott Lehto has a poster that can be put on postcards too. He plans to change the wording of the principal poster and lighten it up.

City Tour

Scott asked Trey Green if he would be the docent. Toni Tront has also volunteered.

Proposed Grants

- Paid for the computer and camera out of our budget. The box behind the podium is not reliable and requires specialized help to run it. We need something more plug and play, speakers, lighting, and carpeting.
- Updated sign. Showed pictures of the updated sign. Replace 10 x 5 and 5 x 5 signs. Replace bottom with digital electronic signs.
- Put a huge banner on the side of the building.

COVID Status

- COVID infection levels are not as low as a year ago, but no one is dying from it now.
- Two speakers in the last two months came down with it. Jody Wise had it even though she had four boosters. She got the anti-viral but was back in two days.
- Continue with hybrid services and watch closely, in fall for return of the virus. For now we have the space, the doors, and we are good.

Presidents Report

- EMEAC is working on their core identity and will focus on building that. They love the floors. Julie Brock knows Dee and will contact her to build more coordinated events with them.
- There's no annual report this month.

Round Table

- Nancy Shattuck gave a heads-up that she will not be able to commute from Ann Arbor in the winter and asked that the board start looking for a replacement for Secretary of Board and Office Administrator. Scott Lehto brought up that a friend of Elizabeth's might be a good candidate.
- Nancy Shattuck suggested that the duties of the office administration and secretary jobs be revised as everything has changed. Julie Brock suggested it as an agenda item for next month's board meeting. She would like to review the wages, hours worked, etc.
- Jody Wise went to the Roe vs Wade demonstration.

- Update the calendar. Films are dropped from Social Justice.

Ministers closing

We are needing to heal in our bodies; the possibilities for our church feel like burdens. We need to let go of the burden feeling and stick to our goal of building our community. We may take small steps, work with a mission and not with the burdens.

MEETING ADJOURNED 1:37 pm

NEXT MEETING IS JULY 17, 2022