Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Date: May 15, 2024

Attending: Lisa Gilley (President), Pat Wydell (Vice President), Dan Yokas (Secretary), Debbie Lee (Treasurer), Denise Sepos, Emilie Cheng, Ryan Schaefges, Tim Reuter/Bowers Trustees.

Lisa Gilley called the regular monthly meeting of the CCUU Board of Trustees to order at 7:10 p.m. Dan shared an opening reading, and the Board members recited the Board Covenant. With a quorum of trustees present, the meeting proceeded with business.

Last Month's Minutes:
Debbie recommended a change to the minutes that involved replacing the words "budget shortfall "with the following statement: "The dollar amount needed to be raised by our Giving Tuesday fundraising has been reduced to $6,700". Ryan moved to accept the April minutes, and Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business

Annual Meeting Reminder:
Lisa reviewed the plans for the Congregational Annual Meeting. The Board discussed the procedures for voting in person and online. A quorum of 20% is needed. Lisa will announce that a Contract Minister has been named and will begin on August 1, 2024.

GA Delegates:
The following individuals will be attending this year's General Assembly as delegates from Countryside Church UU:

Jeannie Scown
Leslie Peet
George Motto
Laurie Lantz
Natalie Krastev

Dan moved to approve the above-named delegates to GA, and Debbie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Contract Minister Search Update:
Lisa shared some information about Reverend Pam's professional background. Lisa also discussed a recent meeting during which Rev Pam inquired about moving some amount of money from her salary into the worship program so that she could use it to experiment with additional types of worship services, with the aim of attracting different people who may not want to attend Sunday morning worship. The board was comfortable with this proposal. This change does not increase the overall cost to the church.

Lisa proposed some dates for a Board retreat in the early fall. Board members were asked to check their calendars and respond to Lisa regarding proposed dates.

June/July/August
PlansReverend D's last day in the pulpit will be June 16, 2024. An appropriate "thank you" and a gift will be presented to Rev D at that time.

Review By-Law Article XIII
The Board reviewed the current language in Article XIII, which included some of the changes that had already been made. The reference to the Minister being a church member (3.a) is recommended to be removed. Debbie moved to remove that clause regarding the Minister being a member. Tim seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.
This recommended change to the By-Laws, along with other recommended changes will be submitted for vote at the May 2024 Annual Meeting.

Financial Update:
- There are extra funds in the Operating Budget for next year.
- Excess funds at the end of the fiscal year. The plan is to do a "catch-up" on insurance payments to align those payments for the months that they actually cover.
- There will be approximately $9,000 extra cash at the end of the year. The Finance Committee wants the extra funds to go to the Capital Reserve.
- Reserve funds are available to cover the maintenance of the solar panel.

- The pianos in the Sanctuary and Choir Room need significant repair.
- Using our excess cash, it was suggested that we purchase a six-month Certificate of Deposit (CD) for $100,000.

Lisa moved to authorize up to $2,000 to repair the Sanctuary and Choir Room pianos. Dan seconded that motion, which passed unanimously.

Tim moved to authorize the purchase of a six-month $100,000 CD from Fifth/Third Bank with funds from our excess cash. Lisa seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approving Waivers For Pledges in 2025-2025:

There are six requests from member households to waive the pledge requirement for the 2024-2025 church year.

Dan moved to waive the pledge requirement for those six households, and Tim seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ongoing Business

Safety Glass Update:
The Board had previously approved the expenditure of $6,000 to install safety glass at specific locations.
After some discussion, it was agreed that the installation of an 8-millimeter product was recommended.
The installation proposal was increased to include the large window outside of the church office.

Senior High Youth Group Issue Update:
Lisa provided a brief overview of recent meetings and conversations regarding how our policies and procedures were applied to this issue. As a result of those meetings and conversations some recommendations and suggestions were submitted regarding how to strengthen and improve our current policies and

procedures for resolving contention or disagreements among church members or staff.

Lisa also discussed a meeting she had with Rev D, Marta, and duRee. At that meeting, Marta expressed some unease and concerns regarding the resolution of the issue. A follow-up meeting with the entire staff was recommended for later in the Fall.

Adjournment & Closing Reading

Dan offered a closing reading and Denise moved to adjourn the regular meeting, and Pat seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Board of Trustee meeting will be on June 19, 2024.