

Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

A Loving Community of Seekers: Living with Integrity – Nurturing Wonder – Inspiring Action

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

February 23, 2016 5:45 PM – 7:45 PM Jefferson Hall

Present: Susan Plummer, Vice President; Keith Strohmaier, Treasurer; Carol Schwyzer, Secretary; Craig Bennett, Eileen Bunning, Bonnie Lassen, Charlene Little, Rev. Julia Hamilton, Lead Minister; Rev. Caitlin Cotter, Assistant Minister; Erin Wilson, Director of Administration
Absent: Melinda Staveley, Board President; Ted Tazer-Myers, Rev. Caitlin Cotter, Assistant Minister

Process Checker: Andrew Rose, Nominating Committee member

Time Keeper & Parliamentarian: Charlene Little

- I. Julia read the words of Mother Theresa
- II. Board members and Julia and Andrew **Checked-In.**
- III. There was no one present for the **Open Forum.**
- IV. The **Minutes** for January 26, 2016 were approved with the replacement of “Warning Centers” with “Warming Centers.”
- V. **Policy Governance**
 - A. **Finance Report-** Keith Strohmaier
 1. Finance Committee: Keith will write an article for the Kaleidoscope about the exploration of establishing a USSB reserve, which is taking place due to a request by the Board.
 2. Approve Audit Committee Charter: postponed pending notice to Audit Committee chair.
 3. Internally Reviewed 2014-15 Financials: after discussion, the Board voted to receive the 2014-2015 Financials forwarded by the Audit Committee. Board members are requested to bring any questions about the financials to the next Board meeting.
 4. January Financial Dashboard Moved to Executive Session
 - B. **Lead Minister Interpretations – Rev. Julia**
 1. Affirm interpretation of 2.7: Asset Protection
 2. Affirm interpretation of 1.4.8
These two interpretations are not ready and will be considered at a subsequent meeting.
 3. The Board accepted the interpretation of End 1.4.6 *Nurturing Wonder, we develop intellectual and spiritual practices that actively engage us with paradox and mystery.*
 - C. **Moral Owners Updates**
 1. Pacific Pride – Eileen & Keith
 2. Warming Center – Carol & Craig
These four Board members will set a date tonight with Julia to frame a uniform set of questions for discussion with moral owners.

- D. Membership Roster Review:** The Board accepted the list of **Members** to be **Removed from the Roster**.
- E. Reviewed the Revised Board Calendar:** The Board reviewed the Board Calendar, adding a Board Budget Priorities meeting for Sunday, April 3, after the second service.
- VI. **Executive Report :** Julia Hamilton noted some of the high points of a busy month: R. E. visioning process and surveys (keep reminding folks to take the survey); the successful fund drive for the sound system (thanks to the stewardship committee and Erin Wilson), the Chalice Circle reception, and the planning for the annual campaign led by Lora Barnett.
- VI. **Process Observations:** Andrew noted the meeting started on time, it was upbeat and positive, there were compliments for people present and not present, and the Board avoided the temptation to table two items. It was a good, well-run meeting.
- VII. **Closing Reading:** Susan Plummer read the words of Wendell Berry.
- VIII. **Executive Session**
- IX. **Projected Budget Variance:** Pledge income is lower than projected and insurance costs are higher, resulting in a projected budget variance. Some adjustments have already been made. In order to come closer to a balanced projected budget at the end of the year, the Board voted to delay remaining payments to the UUA and PSWD and to make payment contingent on there being sufficient revenue.
- X. The meeting was **Adjourned** at 7:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 29, 2016 5:45 PM Jefferson Hall