

Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

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

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2018 6:00-8:22 pm - USSB, Jefferson Hall

Attendees: Keith Strohmaier, Board President; Bonnie Lassen; Onolee Zwicke, Treasurer; Bonnie Lassen, Secretary; Eileen Bunning, Jack Rief, Cheryl Snell, Chris Shorb, Rev. Julia Hamilton, Erin Wilson, Director of Administration

Absent: Susan Plummer: Vice President, Craig Bennett

Process Checker: Carol Schwyzer

- I. **Opening Reading** – Cheryl Snell
- II. **Check In** – Multiple people checked in.
- III. **Open Forum** - none
- IV. **Minutes** – Onolee Zwicke moved and Chris Shorb seconded to accept the January minutes as submitted. Passed
- V. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.
- VI. **Freedom Warming Center Update/Intro** – Kathy Hayes, the new Director of the Freedom Warming Center, updated the Board on new programs in North County. She shared that, unlike South County, the North County programs need a Spanish translator and serve more people with addiction issues. Her goal is to offer consistent services in both North and South County.

Kathy has diversified the funding that supports the Centers. Government support is a large percentage of the funding. She is now seeking funding from foundations. She has updated the website and added marketing materials to make the Centers look more professional.

Kathy shared that in December, the Centers activated 12 nights, mostly due to fire-related conditions. Masks were distributed, and transportation was provided to Isla Vista Red Cross, so people could leave the area. She is also working on a disaster plan. The program is now a part of Volunteer Organization Active in Disaster (VOAD).
- VI. **Executive Report** - Rev. Julia
Thank You: Claire Chyttilo, Mary Grimm
Knox School Update - We need to plan for the expected leaving of Knox School and making up the loss of the income.

Julia highlighted her report: People have been attending and bringing their children, but not signing the membership book. Julia and Megan are looking at the “ask” portion of Newcomers’ Series.

The Board endorsed the new internship Julia has proposed.

Erin discovered the Vanguard account has investments in three publicly traded gun companies, so she will be moving the funds to the bank where we have our other money. There will be no loss in interest.
- VII. **Policy Governance**

A. Board Discussion Topics

1. Board Discussion Topic – Linkage

1. We could ask the congregation “How is this place serving as your Spiritual Home?”
2. Julia will research questions other congregations use.
3. We could use our next Board discussion to focus on planning a linkage event.
4. We could put articles in the Kaleidoscope to prepare the congregation for a linkage conversation.
5. We could use our Annual Meeting as an opportunity to engage the congregation.
6. Our homework for next Board meeting is to think about which of the six Ends we want to choose and how would we engage the congregation.

2. Large Gifts Policy - We are expecting a large gift within the next year. The Board Policy on gifts was written at least 15 years ago before we had policy governance. The policy currently is that 25% of unrestricted bequests, up to \$5,000, goes to Operating, and the rest goes to the Endowment. This conversation will be continued next month.

3. Board Officers for 2018-19 - Keith has signed on for another year as President. We will need a Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

B. Board Monitoring

1. 2.4 – January Financial Dashboard - no questions
3. 2.5 – Line of Credit Re-authorization - The reauthorization has been moved from January to September. No action needs to be taken now.
4. 2.8 – Compensation & Benefits Review - Questions will be sent to Erin.
5. 2.4 – Ministerial Compensation Review - There are no changes for next year.
6. Removal of Members by Board Action - Chris Shorb moved and Keith Strohmaier seconded that by Board action we remove: from the membership list. Passed.

C. Finance Report

1. January Financial Dashboard & Report from Finance Committee - The committee will meet quarterly unless other meetings are needed. Committee members on their own will continue to review the financial information monthly.

2. 2018-19 Budget Planning Update – the Task Force has met and is working on the budget for next year.

VIII. **Process Checker Observations** - Good collaboration, there was laughter and people were forthcoming.

IV. **Closing Reading** – Bonnie Lassen read “Rise Up Rooted” from Book of Hours by Rainer Maria Rilke.

IV. **Adjourn 8:22**

NEXT MEETING: March 27, 2018 6:00-8:00pm in Jefferson Hall
February Exec. Team Meeting – March 14, 6:00-7:00pm