

Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara

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

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

September 26, 2017 6:03-7:34pm - USSB, Jefferson Hall

Attendees: Keith Strohmaier, Board President; Susan Plummer, Vice President; Onolee Zwicke, Treasurer; Bonnie Lassen, Secretary; Craig Bennett, Jack Rief, Cheryl Snell, Chris Shorb, Erin Wilson, Director of Administration

Absent: Rev. Julia Hamilton, Rev. Caitlin Cotter, Eileen Bunning

Process Checker: Colin Jones

Time Keeper & Parliamentarian:

Visitor: Rachael Aarons

Refreshments: Onolee Zwicke

Opening Reading – Chris Shorb Reading by Peggy McIntosh

Brief Check in

Open Forum - none

Minutes – August 22, 2017 Craig moved and Chris seconded to accept minutes. Motion carried.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda none

Executive Report

There was a request for Sunday attendance comparisons between this year and last. Erin will get the figures for the next meeting. Erin reported Realm usage has been about 190 logins the first month. There were about 30 people at the first Realm presentation Sunday, Sept. 24. Team leaders will have Realm training in mid-November.

There are about 110 auction donations so far.

During executive committee Keith will request update on status of CRE.

Thank You notes go to: Tammy Shorb, Marisa Pasquini, Gary Welterlen, Charlene Little

Policy Governance

A. Board Discussion Topics

1. Reserve Fund

Right now the finance committee has made no recommendations to the Board. The question was posed regarding our views on a reserve fund: what if we were already contributing to our Fair Share. There were other discussions on priorities. Some thought we could prioritize our financial goals. Other thought we don't have to prioritize but can make it known we want a reserve fund. Or we could communicate to the congregation that should there be an emergency we would need to go to them to cover costs. The consensus is that a long term goal would be to fund a reserve. There is no strategy now to create a reserve fund and it is not a top priority. The topic of the reserve will be brought up at budget time each year.

2. Board Discussion Topic – White Supremacy is discussion topic to set the stage for future discussion on policy governance and moral owners. Homework for next meeting: everyone bring an article to share related to white supremacy.

B. Board Monitoring

1. Policy 2.4 – July & August Financial Dashboard & Report - no questions

2. Policy 2.2 – Facilities Accessibility - Acknowledged we are not fully in compliance.

3. Policy 2.7 – Facilities Report (Buildings & Grounds Maintenance) - No comment on report

4. Policy 2.7 – Safety & Security Report - no questions

5. Policy 2.3 – Employee Policy Manual - This document has not been reviewed by HR attorney or the ad hoc HR Committee. The Board does not have to approve or disapprove it, just give feedback.

C. Finance Report

1. July & August Financial Dashboard & Report from Finance Committee

Today we received our endowment distribution. Repair expenses during the summer are usually higher because it is the best time work while programs are not running. We did not go over budget.

Process Checker Observations - General comments: Interesting to see the group work through discussion. The processor checker needs to get the Board packet in advance. Everyone was asked what their opinion was. The Reserve discussion would have gone smoother if there were more facts given in advance. Send a reminder to people not present that there is homework. There was a nice casual atmosphere.

Closing Reading – Jack Rief Poem

Adjourn 7:34 PM

NEXT MEETING: October 24, 2017 6:00-7:00pm

Reminder: Board Development Day October 14th 2017

Reminder: October Snacks – Craig Bennett

October Opening Reading – Onolee Zwicke

October Closing Reading – Chris Shorb

Bonnie Lassen

September 26, 2017