

Unitarian Universalist Church of Jacksonville
Board Meeting
May 7, 2019 6:30 PM
Approved Minutes

In Attendance: Penny Reid, Elizabeth Dion, Karen Smith-Scott, Tessie Bond, Gary Rhodes, Jennifer Tucker, Laura Tavoularis (arrived 6:53 PM)

Staff: None in attendance

Guests: Hope Clayton, Lynn Shad, David Lafitte, Kathleen McKenzie, Mark Dickens, Mary Carter

Call to order 6:35 PM

Opening words: Penny Reid

*******MOTION******* Approval of minutes: Tessie/Liz
Motion carries with all in favor.

Discussion of Campus Lighting project - David Lafitte participating: Question is raised whether it is part of Capital Campaign and the pros/cons of moving quickly with funding. It is agreed that this project was not part of the Capital Campaign.

*******MOTION******* To approve making funds available for lighting.
Jennifer/Tessie
Motion carries with 4 in favor and 1 abstain

Update on Capital Campaign: Kathleen McKenzie

Last year, committee had planned to go public with progress that had been made so far. The total of what was on hand, pledged and promised funds was about \$500,000. The program was devastated by conflict in the church. Updated plan is to scale back ambitions for immediate future to a more realistic program concentrating on the most urgent needs. Those identified areas are: 1. Update and improve lighting in Sanctuary. 2. Improve and expand storage hall including the removal of existing bathrooms and storage closet, and build unit under the breezeway that connects the sanctuary to the south wing to house 3 new ADA adapted, non-gendered restrooms and large storage closet. Expand Social Hall towards lake and add larger patio and possibly a short pier and gazebo extending into the pond. Also in plan to improve upstairs restrooms and make south wing ladies room suitable to be used as a bridal dressing room. These plans will facilitate increased revenues from rentals.

There are no plans to enlarge Sanctuary and Admin offices in the immediate.

President's Report: Penny Reid

Board must address the issues with Alice Ricker's memorial donation. Lynn Shad, representing the Foundation, recommends that the board accept the difference between the total 2019 Foundation Endowment disbursement, (\$21, 543.31), and the amount of Alice Ricker's donation that has not been disbursed to the Foundation, (\$12, 112.13). This leaves \$9,431.18 of the total 2019 disbursement that can be transferred to the church. This plan is accepted.

In the event of a second Board Retreat, the Foundation/Endowment would like to come and present to the Board what they do.

The Board is presented with a letter from Minister Emeritus Rev. Dr. John Young offering an endowment gift to UUCJ of \$10,000 to be stipulated in his will for donation after his death. The purpose of the gift is to sponsor semi-annual guest speakers in accordance with terms he has stipulated in his letter. The board will contact Rev. Young and thank him for his generosity and thoughtfulness.

Interim Minister search: Update provided about the candidates in general and the interview process, as well as what to expect from the timeline of events.

Reminder that General Assembly is approaching.

*****MOTION***** To elect Penny Reid as a delegate for General Assembly -

Tessie/Liz

Motion carries with all in favor.

Discussion regarding critical vacancies on committees such as LDC, Membership, Mission Funding.

Treasurer's report: Liz Dion

Mark Dickens and Laura TaVoularis contribute to discussion of condition of church finances, as well as which funds are restricted and which are not.

Admin Report: Penny/Karen

Administrator has raised the question of how often background checks must be repeated and for whom.

Action Item Jennifer Tucker

To research how often other churches do background checks on RE volunteers

Inreach: Tessie Bond - portfolio is having a meeting on 5/26/19.

Operations: Jennifer Tucker - Green Sanctuary reports Arlington Community Gardens needs additional funding to pay the grower.

Action Item Jennifer Tucker

Will get figures on how much funding is needed and what the specific needs are.

Discussion regarding whether keepers of the church and campus renewal are combined or no. There was a motion made in a previous board meeting to combine the two groups which carried with all in favor. Since then, two separate charters for the committees as they originally were have been presented by David

Lafitte. There is some question as to whether David Lafitte was consulted regarding this and what his opinion was.

Action Item Jennifer Tucker

Talk to David Lafitte and ascertain his needs/desires/opinions regarding same.

Florida Immigrant Coalition Membership: Jennifer

*****MOTION***** Move that we join the Florida Immigrant Coalition as a member for 2019 Jennifer/Karen

Motion carries with 5 in favor, 1 opposed.

Board vacancy: Penny

Two candidates have been recommended by LDC.

Discussion regarding information candidates have presented.

Penny will move forward with intention to fill the vacancy by appointment and will notify her selection.

Open position of Vice President - Laura TaVoularis has accepted the position of Board Vice President.

Open position of Outreach Portfolio leader and Stewardship Portfolio leader: Gary Rhodes has accepted the position of outreach portfolio vacated by Laura. Newly appointed board member will be offered Stewardship Portfolio Leader position.

Board policy regarding voting by email - Two similar policies were presented. Tessie and Jennifer will work together to create a draft for board approval.

Discussion regarding consultants: Jennifer/Penny

Jennifer and Penny reached out to Greg Kaufman by email, but did not get a response. They had an extended conversation with Shirley Stetson and Bryant Rollins (www.stetsonrollins.net) and felt very positive, confident and supported by the organization. Discussion will continue on how to proceed with utilizing their services to do the "pre-work" needed to begin advancing the church to a place of healing.

Request made by Penny and Liz to move board meetings to 6 PM due to the distance they drive to come to Jacksonville. None are opposed.

A suggestion was made by Penny to consider having a second board retreat to help the new board members. None are opposed and Penny will work on a date and location.

*****MOTION***** to adjourn @ 9:05

Tessie/Jennifer

Carries with all in favor