

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Gwinnett
12 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Board of Trustees Meeting

January 15, 2020 scheduled 7 to 9 PM

Attendance:

Present: Marcus Kabel(Z), President; Lorena Griffin, Vice President; Terry Welsher, Secretary; Jezza Hehn(Z), Treasurer; Aaliyah Mooney, At-Large; Ally Perras(Z), At-Large; Greg Bandy (Z), Treasurer-Elect, Rev. Jan Taddeo. (Z=Joined by Zoom)

Absent: RJ Rice, At-Large

Quorum present: Yes (7 of 8).

Guests: None.

[Note: Action Items are in red. Items for the November agenda are in blue.]

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM.

Consent Agenda – Since some changes to the December minutes required discussion, they were moved to the Discussion Agenda. Lorena also asked that the Minister’s Report be moved there as well. A Financial Report was not available at the time of the meeting.

Discussion Items

Minister’s Report Clarifications – Lorena asked for more information about the Shared Ministry Council. This is still in formation so many questions were deferred until the group that has been defined can work on the co-creative development process. The council will work with the individual Ministry Teams. A draft charter for the Council was distributed a few months ago.

Chuck Powell Proposal: This proposal was approved in the December 2019 BOT meeting. Lorena reported on the status. Chuck is collecting background data from other churches, demographic data for Gwinnett County and conducting interviews with current and past members. The project now has a name: “The Fire of Commitment: Exploring Opportunities for Sustainability of UUCG” **Rev. Jan will communicate to the congregation that this project is happening.**

Outreach to Members with Unknown Contribution Status: There are 16 households whose contribution status is not clear. This means they had no contribution status in 2019 and have not asked for a waiver. Members are required to make a contribution of record each calendar year or request a waiver. (There is no minimum amount.) It is likely that a subset of

these 16 will want a waiver while others have left without notice. Methods for addressing this situation were discussed. They included making phone calls, sending form letters with boxes to check and including digital payment options in the communications. A plan of action was chosen. **Marcus will draft letters based the member's situation. There are three type of letters needed (need waiver, dropped out, other). Marcus and Rev. Jan will then complete the process of sending the letters. This will be completed by the end of January.**

Gender-Neutral Bathrooms – RJ has been leading this and could not attend this meeting. The Board would like clarification on the timeline and cost estimates. Also, do we have a team put together to do the work? The privacy aspects (stall panels that go down to the floor) should be addressed. **Aaliyah will follow-up with RJ**

Septic Project Follow-Up: The expansion of the septic capacity has been completed. However, we now have a large deforested area due to installation of the drainage field and some landscaping is needed. There is \$3638.52 remaining in the project budget. The Board agreed by consensus to allocate these funds to the project. There is also a \$1450.63 balance from the Nancy Jacobsen bequest that could be applied to this. A team to address this will be formed.

Policy Manual – This was discussed briefly. Members are still in the process of reviewing. Review should high-level. Some brief discussions on some specific topic came up. There was a question about the status of Spiral Scouts. What is their relationship/agreement with UUCG? Should the BOT have more visibility into the Endowment Fund such as who serving on the EF board.

Turning Sun Request (added to agenda) – Turning Sun has requested permission to remove walls between specific classrooms. This was described in Jan 15 email from Rev. Jan to the BOT. There was considerable discussion. Some expressed concern that the change was too extreme. Other said the decision should go before the congregation, possibly for a vote. Still others thought that the changes might be advantageous to UUCG. It was decided to hold a Town Hall meeting after the service on 1/26. A subsequent congregational meeting could be held on 2/9 if necessary but it was hoped that this would not be necessary. **Rev. Jan was to make an announcement of the town hall.**

Other topics – 1. Rev. Jan is due for an evaluation. She has a plan for getting this done. 2. **Rev. Jan will contact Jeza and Greg to transfer Treasurer duties she is still doing.**

December Minutes – The version distributed for approval was modified to include the appointment of Aaliyah Mooney to the vacant position of Board Member At-Large with a term ending June 2021. With this addition the 12/18/2019 minutes were approved by acclamation.

Item carryover from December - Board Member Discussions with Congregation (by member or small group): There was discussion about what should be the next topic. Should we have some of the discussion in the 10AM program or world café discussions? **Lorena will put up a poster board.**

Sunday Collection Count Assignments -

Jan 19 Terry/Aaliyah

Jan 26 Marcus/Ally

Feb 2 Lorena/Terry

Feb 9 Marcus/Ally

Feb 16 Lorena/Ally

Feb 23 **unassigned**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM

Minutes submitted by Terry Welsher, Secretary 2/11/2020. Approval:

Next Meeting: **Thursday February 27, 7-9PM.**