

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown NY
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
October 28, 2022

Board Members Present: Heather Winn, Amy Summerville-Loomis, Eleanor Allen, Janine LaClair, Catherine Burns, Joanne Harter

Board Members Excused: Sarah O'Connell, Shannon Starkweather-Burke,

Others Present: Robert South, Rebecca Carr, Angelo Guarino, Kathy Ashland, Holly Jean Yousey

Preliminaries: - Heather Because two board members needed to leave fairly early, the meeting was started without reading of the covenant or assigning a process observer.

Call to Order

Heather called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.

Minutes – Sarah The minutes of the September 23 Board meeting were presented. **Eleanor moved and Joanne seconded that we approve the minutes from the previous Board meeting as written. Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report - Eleanor

Eleanor reviewed the September 2022 financial report which still reflected a time where we were not yet in the building full-time; it represents the first 25% of the year. There were no questions and it will be filed for audit.

Regarding the building insurance, she noted that Church Mutual had sent their invoice for basic liability policy which was \$3,745 reflecting a 16% increase over the previous year. She noted that CM also carries an umbrella policy for All Souls as well as a worker's compensation policy. She reported that the worker's compensation policy is part of a safety group of several churches which reflects in a lower policy cost, and that we had recently gotten a dividend of \$397. She recommended that we continue the coverage with Church Mutual.

She also noted that Ann Halbeck is back in the building and that we agreed she would no longer have to pay rent, but in the meantime she did send a \$20 donation.

Vice President's Report - Amy

Amy sent a vice-president report by email which is included in the meeting record.

President's Report / Executive Committee Report- Heather sent a president report by email which is included in the meeting record.

Committee Reports

Finance Report - Eleanor

Eleanor proposed a motion **to open a USA Core Savings Money Market account at USB.** This account would contain funds that are currently in an AmeriCU account because the new account offers a promotional interest rate of 3.25%. Amy **seconded and the motion was carried.**

She noted that she had sent a report to the board this morning with a final insurance report. That report is included in the meeting record.

Building and Grounds Report – Rebecca

Rebecca noted that Sarah had provided a list of several straw votes by email that needed to be ratified in the board meeting. The list consisted of the following:

On **August 11**, the Executive Committee was asked to approve a bill for \$225.02 for lawn mower

repair. The bill was approved.

On **September 7**, Heather called on the Board for a straw vote on not removing the carpet in the RE office. The Board voted NO to removing the carpet.

On **September 26**, the Board was asked to vote on having Diego paint the teen room for an additional \$800. The Board voted YES to having the room painted.

On **September 30**, Heather asked the Board to vote on having Paris Construction apply GACO to temporarily protect the roof for \$3000. The Board voted YES.

On **October 14**, the Executive Committee voted to have a company called Rags to Rachael come in to do a thorough cleaning of the church for \$700. The Board voted YES.

Eleanor moved that the list as presented be ratified by the board; Amy seconded and the motion was carried. Rebecca noted that the word GRACO be corrected to GACO.

Rebecca noted the interior work is done and the cleaning company that was contracted for post-construction cleaning was currently in the building.

She also had 2 bids for snowplowing. The company that did the work last year submitted the lower bid.

Amy moved to accept the Cutting Edge bid for snowplowing, Eleanor seconded, and the motion passed.

There needs to be outside work done on the siding, and the furnace needs to be cleaned. Rebecca suggested that we hire a general contractor to take over the management of the building-related work. After discussion, Heather stated she would contact Diego Aguilar to see if he would be interested since he is very familiar with our building already and the board members can meet with him to discuss.

The custodian, John Crupi, is now more in contact with Rebecca with an email address; she has provided him with a time sheet where he can indicate what work he is performing. Rebecca will provide the board with a revised job description for the custodian position. Concern was expressed that he is not at the church when any congregation members are there to meet with him.

Eleanor brought up concerns about the thermostat settings; Robert will see if he can figure out the instructions for the program, but we may also be looking at the Nest programmable thermostats that National Grid provides which can be remotely set by phone and gives alerts when needed. It was suggested that this might be part of the new security system.

Outreach Report – Eleanor sent a report from the NYSCU annual meeting where items like archival storage, grant and loan programs, etc. were discussed. This report will be part of the meeting record.

Membership/Activities

Holly Jean Yousey, a guest from Emmanuel UCC, discussed the community dinner program and stated that donations and volunteer assistance from ASUUC would be most appreciated. This program will offer a meal for the homeless population every night from 5-8 before they can visit the overnight warm-up center being provided by the Salvation Army. This will be kicked off by a November lasagna dinner where ASUUC members can volunteer. She also reported on a going-away dinner for Rev. JJ Flag.

Robert noted that the Thanksgiving dinner at All Souls was going to happen. He sent a report on visitor processing, the proposed discussion hour plan, the Religious Education Committee and the process for removing people from the membership rolls who hadn't been active for many years. That report will be part of the meeting record.

Kathy Ashland reported on her years of UU membership and involvement in RE over the past many years, and her interest in further involvement at All Souls RE since she has been here a year, first approached by Frances (she wanted it noted that she hadn't come to ASUUC with the intent to take over the RE program). **Amy made a motion to create the Religious Education Committee with Kathy Ashland as chair and Robert, Kelly and Frances as initial members. Eleanor seconded, and the motion passed.**

Amy made a motion to authorize the return of the discussion hour before church; Eleanor seconded, and the motion passed.

Amy made a motion to accept the Inactive Member Removal Policy; Eleanor seconded, and the motion passed:

Inactive Member Removal Policy

By name, the Board of Trustees may authorize the Registrar to strike from the Membership Rolls any signed member who is not currently an active voting member, and who has not attended an annual meeting of the church within the last 10 years.

Adopted 10/28/22

Amy made a motion and Eleanor seconded and the motion passed, a list of people to be removed from the current membership rolls for inactivity.

Tracy Adams, Caryn Allen, Charles Allen, Chris Beaman, Geraldine Bennett, Lyle Bonney, Venkat Chebolu, Shamla Chebolu, Sally Cole, Ed Corbett, Judy Corbett, Ian Crowley, Tim B Cuninghame, Dayler Cuninghame, Toby Davis, Richard Finley, Michelle Finley, James Finnerty, Mary Ashton Frankenberg, Steven Goald, Christy Goald, Laia Goald, Mitchell Goneau, David A. Hall, Nancy Hardwick, Peter Hardwick, Steven Hayes, Barbara Hill, Patricia Honeywell, Richard Honeywell, Brian Hughes, Deanna Hughes, Orville Humphrey, Marie Humphrey, Judith Hyatt, Laura Jennings, Mary Kaskan, Patricia Kinley, Suzonne Kister, Marshall Kinne, William Kolb, Jeralia Kolb, Brent Lewis, Donna Macsuga, Walter Majak, Kristine Majak, Barbara Maxon, Aesha McDermott, Donald McDermott, Joseph McDermott, Thomas McMillan, Eric Melton, Alice Merson, Gary Osterhaut, Sandra Osterhaut, Stuart Parker, Megan Perg, Edward Pflugheber, Ruth Preston, Tracy Pridell, David Ross Reid, Mary Ellen Ryan, Thomas Schmidt, Rebecca Schwarz, Lewis Schwarz, Sally Scott, Carol Sousa, Daniel Stern, Julia Stern, Sandra Stern, Babette Teich-Visco, Charles Thompson, Donald Thompson, Christine Thompson, Nina Timerman, Robert Timerman, Michael Tripp, Rene Purcell Vauloy, Dennis Visco, David Warner, and Dorothy Wilson.

Worship Report – Eleanor

No report given.

Religious Education – See Membership and Activities report.

Ad Hoc Committees

Transition Team

No report given.

New Business - None

Next Board Meeting

The Board normally meets on the 4th Friday of the month at **9:30 am**. **A motion was made by Eleanor and seconded by Amy to change the November meeting due to the Thanksgiving holiday to Friday, December 2, 2022, the December meeting to change to Friday, January 6, 2023 and the regular January meeting to be held on Friday, January 26, 2023. The motion passed.**

Process Observer Report – Not available.

Heather adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah O'Connell, Secretary