

UUCNH 2016 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2016
12:30 p.m.

President Dennis Doubleday called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.

Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes – May 2015 and January 2016

MOTION to approve meeting minutes from congregational meetings of May 2015 and January 2016, seconded and passed.

Proposed 2016 Budget

Dennis noted that the budget includes funding of health insurance coverage for employees working $\frac{3}{4}$ time or more. Mary Ellen Johnson, on behalf of the Finance Committee, introduced a MOTION to approve the budget; she took questions from the membership and asserted:

- There is budgeted a 3% increase for all staff.
- Reserves established about four years ago and intended for future operational costs are being used to help transition to covering health insurance for employees.
- There is an aggressive assumption of \$8,000 in fundraising.
- Building operations budget is lower than previous years in large part due to lower gas prices.

Motion passed.

Board and Leadership Development Team Nominees

LDT nominees for the Board of Trustees were Robyn Travers (President track), Ellen Saksen, and Michelena Wolf for three year terms and Jan Hoeter to serve the two-year balance of a vacated seat's term. Dennis called for nominations from the floor; there were none. MOTION for voting by paper ballot, seconded and passed. Nominated individuals were elected.

LDT nominees for the Leadership Development Team were Chuck Berry and Stacy Conlin for two year terms and Sandy Faulkner for the one-year balance of a vacated seat's term. Dennis called for nominations from the floor; there were none. Nominated individuals were elected.

Report from the Governance Task Force

Joyce Kepner, Bob Delaney, Ed Rockman, and Sue Broughton reported for the task force. The group reviewed existing church committee structure and proposed a new structure to support envisioned implementation of policy governance by the Board. Key aspects were clarification of the distinct functions of ministry and governance, placement of all ministry groups (teams) under the Minister and direct reporting of governance groups (committees) to the Board. Also proposed was a Ministry Council,

reporting to the Minister and comprising the Minister, DLFD, Board VP, and coordinators of the Community Life, Outreach, and Resources groups of teams.

MOTION: Resolved that the congregation expresses approval with the general direction of the GTF's recommendations and encourages GTF to move to next stage of proposing detailed implementation plans, moved by the task force.

Discussion included questions from the membership and responses by GTF members:

- Question asking for clarification of motivation for ministry teams to report through coordinators to Council; response that ministry teams will get considerable support from council and coordinators.
- Suggestion that LDT be responsible for identifying the three ministry coordinators.
- Suggestion that the Ministry Council report to Board in addition to reporting to the Minister.
- Concern expressed that the Committee of Chairs, which would be eliminated, provides a helpful schedule coordinating function for chairs.
- Suggestion that the VP spot on the Ministry Council be replaced by the past president.
- Suggestion that the new organization structure again be changed after implementation of policy governance.
- Suggestion that the GTF consider a Board size of five members instead of the currently envisioned seven.

Motion passed.

Report from the Interim DRE Search Committee

Rev. Scott Rudolph reported that the committee formed to identify a candidate to serve a one-year assignment as Interim DLFD. The committee is open to keeping the person on permanently under the right circumstances but is recruiting specifically for someone interested in an interim role.

Report from the Visioning Task Force

The task force invited feedback on the three focus areas. Feedback included:

- The vision lacks a “keeping and sustaining members” function. Response was that existing church activities/functions are not intended to be eliminated by focus on the three areas.
- Suggestion that the three focus areas align well with the three ministry council groups and may be an opportunity to establish responsibilities for those groups.
- Note that there is a lack of focus on Sunday services and what can grow out of them.
- Question about whether there is inconsistency in reporting, as the Ministry Council reports to the Minister but the largely parallel focus areas were discerned by the Visioning Task Force, which was charged by the Board.

Recognition of Outstanding Service

The following members were recognized for outstanding service: Allyson Zadnik for childcare coordinating, Tassi Bisers for leadership of the Sunday Services Committee, Ron Smart for leadership of Buildings and Grounds, Lou Bartolomucci for leadership of the Stewardship Committee, Alex Landefeld for improving church communication channels, Michelena Wolf for work with adult LFD and social justice, Laura Patton and Elizabeth Albrecht for coordinating the rummage sale, Lois Madden for being “volunteer of the year,” and outgoing board members Bob Delaney, Mark Draa, and Rachel Smart.

Call for New Business

There was no new business. Greta Porter was congratulated and thanked by Dennis for her years of extraordinary service as DLFD and for her pending retirement.

MOTION to adjourn, seconded and passed at 2:08 p.m.