UUCNH Board Meeting Minutes

23rd of July, 2018: 7 to 9 PM

Attendance
Robyn Travers  Susie Wood  Mary Ellen Johnson  Ellen Saksen
Don Nelson  Don Rollins  Jan Hoeter (minutes)

Absent
Dana Poss  Kathi Finch

Consent Agenda
Previous minutes approved (ES moved, RT seconded, all in favor)
Liaison Reports approved (RT moved, DN seconded, all in favor)
Approve CAR personnel committee (DN moved, RT seconded, all in favor)
Move $31K surplus funds to Building Reserves (SW moved, ES seconded, all in favor)
B&G Discussion & Sexton discussion to formal agenda (RT moved, DN seconded, all in favor)

Action Items from Previous month
• MEJ will give potential personal committee members names to Matt: Mark Dra, Beth Zak, Ed Rockman. Completed.
• ES will tell Facilities Use that to back down until we come up with a system. Completed.
• Susie will ask John for invitations regarding his ordination and what else needs to be done. Still open.
• ES to reach out to her contact at First Church who wanting to found a safety committee there as well, perhaps combine. Completed, also slow moving.
• DN to continue research on use of Yahoo groups/Dropbox and/or Google for Board documents. Still open.
• SW let MST know that we are here for support if the Ministerial Search Team needs it. Completed.
• RT and SW to work on a job description for the Sexton. Completed, see below.
• MEJ will talk to Sandy Faulkner about facilitating grief counseling for Scott. Completed.
• ES will check into the service for grief if we can piggyback perhaps. Completed.
• Robyn will reach out to Rachael Smart, Barb Draa and Stephen Fuegi about Ministry Council. Still open.

HVAC – review and vote
Discussion/Decision: Accept A Comfort Home Services offer for a new HVAC system (RT moved, DN seconded, all in favor).
Action Item: DN will forward quote to SW to sign.

8/12 service and grief discussion
Discussion/Decision: Christina is coordinating the service. Speaker is OK with the idea of leading a grief discussion after the service. MEJ believes this is mostly about allowing congregants to vent. DR pointed out that maybe, instead of looking back, we should just focus on what works well instead? Congregation does not seem to be in deep grief. It’s more about thinking than feeling. UUCNH should not act as a pastoral church any more. SW would like DR to take the lead, instead of the Board, as we are not experts, just feel that more grieving is important to give the new settled ministers a better start after the departure of a beloved minister. RT feels that people including the minister are most important for UUCNH congregants. Currently Scott is about to be put on a pedestal which is not helpful in moving forward.

Action Item: SW will align with Christina and Sandy on details.

Committee changes with ministerial search – use survey from connections team

Personnel: Approved Mark Dra, Beth Zak, Ed Rockman (ES moved, MEJ seconded, all in favor)

GTF – doesn’t need people currently

Stewardship – Not sure if Alex stays, but he prefers not to carry himself. RT and Ginny will stay on team. Action Item: SW will ask Mike & Ruth Horowitz to participate.

Finance – would like one or two more. Action Item: MEJ will ask Mike Zak if he can participate.

Ministry Council – see old action items

Negotiating team – proposed were in that order Alex Saksen, Cathy Ke, Mark Dra, Hazel and Chuck Berry plus MEJ as Board representative. Action Item: ES to ask Alex to ask these people (no prior check with search committee).

B&G needs new process

Discussion/Decision: Catherin / facility use is contributing to overload, e.g. setup and takedown. Can’t continue to rely on ad-hoc volunteers any more. Motion to charge fee, if setup and takedown is not done by renters, i.e. renter has to put church back exactly as found. (RT moved, MEJ seconded, all in favor).

Discussion/Decision: Audio wranglers don’t know that they will be asked to work not just on Sundays but for facilities use as well, e.g. Wedding Thanksgiving weekend and test Friday before. Not a sustainable solution for Bruce to do most of these. Need alternative solution. Action Item: DN and DR to handle short term occurrences. More TBD.

Quarterly meeting with Bellwood – Board vs. Ministry Council in future

Discussion/Decision: For short time, Board can be counterpart for Bellwood, but relationship should be moved to Ministry Council long term. Should not lose progress that was made last year.

Action Item: None now.

John Ballance’s ordination – Sept, 22, 2018 – timing and communication of special collection

Discussion/Decision: DR there should be a process
Action Item: DR to reach out to John Balance how he wants the entire ordination process to proceed (there is a process) including selecting an ordination organization team including Fundraising (John Ritzert, Dennis Doubleday, Tassi Bizers).

**Planning for Board retreat**
Discussion/Decision: TBD who facilitator is going to be. DR suggested the following topics: Are our habits and practices in line with our mission; expectation for new minister; staffing size; leadership equipped for tasks; are we / how do we become an anti-oppression church ...
Action Item: All to send ideas for topics to SW. SW preparing agenda, e.g. on Healthy Leaders and covenant review

**Search for sexton**
Discussion/Decision: Sexton should be worker bee. New B&G chair will become strategic
Action Item: RT and DN will further detail job description.

**Secretary for next time:** ES