

East Shore UU Board of Trustees Meeting
January 12, 2020

Present: Julia Kotowski, Jared Hammond, Shirley Hairston, Minna Zelch, Sue Borstein, Mary Stewart- McGovern, Diana Jackson, Mark Guizlo

Absent: Bob Ross

Attending: Rev Denis Letourneau Paul, Halcyon Domanski, Marten Schreiber, Keli Keyes, Bree Byrd

Meeting called to order by Julia Kotowski, Chair at 12:16 pm. Centering by Rev Denis. Brief check-in with participants. Additions made to the agenda

Motion made by Shirley Hairston to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Seconded and passed.

Motion made by Shirley Hairston to accept the December 8, 2019 minutes. Seconded and passed with one abstention.

New Business:

1. Keli Keyes shared the idea of East Shore presenting the play, Life in a Jar. She felt moved to present this idea given increased violence against Jewish groups and synagogues and increase in denial of the Holocaust. She felt that other groups within the church (Red Tent and Sisters Keepers) would also be invested in helping in the project. Lynne Killgore and Mary Stewart-McGovern have expressed interest in being able to secure this as a production. General support for this idea. Board request additional information about where the monies to produce the play would come from and encouragement to get other partners engaged in this project.
2. Bree Byrd updated Board on ideas for Taxables Pantry. She stated that initially the pantry would be open one time a month, overlapping with the Old South Food Pantry. COA group also expressed interested in being involved as a service project. Discussed idea of Families helping Families, being treated with dignity and looking beyond the church for support. Discussed possible locations that this could be done within the church. Discussed fund raising, a go-fund-me page, looking at grants and potentially partnering with other churches to expand services. Discussed trying to do needs assessments to determine inventory and interest. Bree discussed ability to reach others through online Facebook groups. Sue Borstein agreed to develop survey to take to some food pantries to get additional input from potential consumers. Bree to provide food pantry contacts. Shirley Hairston requested that a proposal be given that would indicate the need for start-up cash, inventory and potential numbers. Bree will present this at February 9th board meeting.
3. Status of Financial Review 2018-2019. Nancy Tozer and Dan Waite reviewed and provided report to the Board. **Motion made by Shirley Hairston to approve Financial Review provided. Seconded and passed with one vote opposed.**
4. Music Program Update. Piano will be tuned this week. Survey related to music needs and interests is being developed by Dale Luckwitz. Nancy Tozer is reaching out to other congregations about their programming. Shirley encouraged that Music Committee have decisions made by March as their input is needed in the budget process for the upcoming church year.

5. Organizational Restructuring Meeting. Ad-hoc Committee is going to introduce the restructure model and process at the next Millennium Salon on Sunday, Feb. 23 after service. Goal will be to present restructure model for vote at the Annual Meeting in June 2020.
6. Security Committee continues to meet to assess risks and possible solutions. In process of drafting a report to the Board for March meeting. Next meeting is February 5, 2020.
7. Prayer Circle update. Per Rev Denis, continues to go well with increased presence on Facebook.
8. Clean-Up dates. Next one is February 1. Marten will continue to develop list of to- do projects.
9. Upcoming Events were reviewed. Blood Drive was highlighted and Board appreciated Red Cross representative coming to church service today.

Reports:

1. Board Chair- see written report
2. Minister Report- See written report. Rev Denis shared that in upcoming Beacon, his column will include his decision to not renew his contract with the church after June 2021.
3. DRE Report- see written report. Halcyon did share her appreciation to Rev Denis for noting the amount of extra time she has put in lately. She reminded board that her contract has not been updated yet. 42 people have signed up for the letter exchange program that will start next month. Halcyon noted that the old mission statement is still on the Beacon newsletter, not our new one.
4. Building and Grounds- Marten is aware about HVAC not working in the community room area. He is having estimates made on the work, but anticipates that it will cost about \$13,000 to replace.

Shirley pointed out that if this is cost, that Board can approve without a congregational vote. Marten is having estimates made for carpet replacement in Halcyon's office as well as bids for the Community/Connect Rooms. Discussion about use of hard floors/vinyl vs carpet if other rooms are to be replaced in the RE wing. House Next Door plumbing repairs will be completed by Monday. Septic system has been idle for too long, will need to add bacteria and then assess its condition.

5. Membership – see report. Church has 155 members. Committee is working on the UUA report. Great Chili cook-off will be February 16th. Diana asked about idea of doing bios of current and new members for the newsletter. This had been discussed in past, but not implemented.
6. Treasurer Report: Shirley noted that date should reflect 2020. Music budget is now overspent and that future monies will come out of the Memorial funds. Both Shirley and Mark noted that there have been some issues with Power Church which is related to updates.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer Report as presented. Motion passed

7. Finance Committee- Shirley is talking with Spectrum to find out what we have to do with updating the Wi-Fi system. These monies would come out of the Capital campaign monies. Currently, the new Capital Campaign has raised \$150,000 in pledges.

Motion made by Shirley Hairston in regards to background checks:

The finance committee proposes the Re Faith Development request for funds to pay for State background checks for individuals that work with children on a consistent basis (classroom teacher/leader, mentors, minister and other RE staff). We recommend the un-budgeted item of \$30/individual be approved. This amount will be charged to the Safety and Security account for the current year. We also recommend that the background checks be renewed every five years. Seconded by Mark Guizlo. Motion passed.

8. Financial Secretary Report. People have been making their pledges. Payments are starting to come in for new Capital Campaign.

9. Committee on Ministry- Jared shared that committee had reviewed letter Rev Denis will be sending out on Wednesday. Discussed what process will be in moving forward for new minister, search ideas and costs. Discussed that there are three possible scenarios: Contract minister (like Judy Bagley-Bonner), another Developmental Minister, or Interim minister searches. Rev Denis suggested that Church Board look for another Developmental Minister as there will be more support from UUA.
10. Finance Committee noted that New Year's Eve party was positive, but that receipts from that night did not cover the costs of the party. Currently only \$5 left in the account, but not all the receipts are in. Will probably need to be paid for from other parts of the budget.

Unfinished Business:

1. Revise original proposal for house next door with revised prioritization
2. Stewardship campaign planning

Motion made by Shirley Hairston to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded and Passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:56 pm.

Next Board Meeting February 9, 2020 at 12:15pm.

Submitted by Sue Borstein

APPROVED 2/9/2020