

## East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church

### Board Meeting 9/9/18

**ATTENDING:** Bob Ross, Julia Kotowski, Jared Hammond, Dan Bond, Laura Solomon, Mary Bender, Martin Schreiber, Halcyon Domanski, Rev. Denis, Kristine Burkwood, Shirley Hairston

#### **Unfinished business/Action Plan:**

Bob did talk to Tim of the bylaws committee. The committee would like to do a couple more “informational table” setups at the end of Sunday services. Dan suggested adding some discussion of the bylaw changes to a service, since people don’t really pay attention to these kinds of things, until the actual change meeting. It was suggested that the bylaws committee help. November 4<sup>th</sup> was put forward as a tentative date, but there is already a guest preacher scheduled that day. Rev. Denis will talk with Tim. We will wait until the November board meeting to come up with the special board meeting date required.

The book *Can Our Church Live?* was ordered, but the extra copies will not arrive in time. If you are finished with yours, please pass it on to another board member. Read the first 3-4 chapters.

#### **New business:**

40<sup>th</sup> birthday party building use request: November 3, 3-10 pm from Rachel Nieves. Anticipated number of guests is 75. This is coming before the board because of a request to serve alcohol. A police officer has to be on site in this case. Dan made a motion to allow alcohol with an officer present. Jared seconded. Motion passed. Mary suggested that the contract be revised to mention that ESUUC is a gun-free zone. She motioned that the language that is used by the Attorney General about being a gun-free zone is added to rental contracts. Dan seconded. Motion carried.

Judy Willour has some medical issues and has asked to be removed from being listed as the small groups liaison. Rev. Denis said that J.T. Hillen will likely take that position.

Board retreat & book study: Martin will provide coffee. Julia will bring fruit salad. Dan will bring a veggie tray. Halcyon will bring bagels and cream cheese. Laura will get donuts. Big questions: discussion of the book and how it applies to ESUUC. What are our next steps? Do we pursue the goal that was set by the board 1-2 years ago, to restructure so it aligns with our personnel resources are, or work on revitalizing a waning congregation?

Choir director update: Marge is doing well, and people are booked to cover for her through September.

Curbside presence: Halcyon and Ben Kotowski will look at potential colors for sign near the road to make it more visible. Martin will check the size of the letters, to see if they meet architectural standards.

BLUU (Black Lives UU): September’s special collections go to this cause. We can assess where we are at the beginning of October, and see where we are. Rev. Denis is thinking about making up any difference (from the stated goal of \$10/person) from the minister’s discretionary fund.

Bob Ross approached Bill Butler about taking pictures for the narthex board of the new board members (Jared and Julia). Bill will be contacting them.

**Action plan:**

- Rev. Denis will look at a potential bylaws service
- Halcyon and Ben will look at sign options.
- Food for the board retreat
- Halcyon will get and put up new RE room signs
- Rev. Denis will check out pricing on shelving that we build ourselves.

**Minutes from the August meeting:** Dan motioned to approve. Kristine seconded. Motion carried, minutes approved.

**Committee reports:**

Chair report: Was received via email.

Minister's report: Was received via email.

Building & grounds report: The triangle at the back looks great. The mower seems to be fixed. Still need to fix one of the urinals in the men's room: should that be part of the custodian's job or not? Martin will show him how to fix that and the sink in one of the children's restrooms. One of the lights on the roadside sign is out again. Probably a simple bulb change. Martin will contact the custodian about the bulb and repairs.

DRE report: Wallpaper removal has begun in RE wing. Halcyon is going to get signs for the rooms in the next week, in order to stop confusion about what the new arrangements are. Quotes from Kraftmaid, to create shelving for the new library (based on our current shelves, also from Kraftmaid). The price is beyond our budget. Denis will check out/design another option.

Membership: Carole and Ralph Friedman have removed themselves from the membership roll with a written letter. Membership report received. Membership count was 158 in August; will be down to 155 with removal of the Friedmans and Margie Rittenhouse.

Treasurer: Dan emailed it yesterday. Cash flow is good. Annual premium for insurance is paid in full. Our electric bill in August was very high; so was July. Mary made a motion to receive the report. Kristine seconded. Motion passed.

Financial Secretary: For the first time in a long time, our income is slightly less than what was budgeted YTD. However, September will look better, and our expenses were below what was budgeted. Mary says we are on track with budgeting. Dan motioned to receive the report. Jared seconded. Motion passed.

Finance: Investment committee is being convened to discuss where we put some of the money we have, rather than in a plain savings account. Fundraising events: our budget really depends on those, and they need to be on the calendar and pushed. Right now, only the art show is on the calendar. Bob is working on this. Next finance meeting is Oct. 6 at 6:00 pm.

Committee on Ministry: Nothing pressing at the moment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:36 pm.

**Next board meeting: October 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm. (NOTE THE TIME CHANGE!)**