

Board of Trustees Meeting-----July 21, 2023 4pm Zoom

The President called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm and words for a chalice lighting were presented by Rev Tracy Johnson. All members were present with the exception of Ed Mangiafico who was unable to attend. Additionally, Sue Bauer, Chair of the Program Council was present.

Reports from the Minister, The President and the Ministerial Search Committee were presented and accepted.

It was then suggested by Jon Nye that in the future streamlining the BOT Meeting would be helped by reviewing reports in advance from the Minister, Secretary, Treasurer, President, and the Agenda, together with any Ministerial Search Committee items not requiring discussion. The Questions can be answered, and corrections made at that time. The reports and action items will then be approved together. This process referred to as a Consent Agenda was approved by a unanimous vote.

The Board then considered and approved by a unanimous vote the appointment of Sandy Porter to fill the remainder of a vacant term on the Endowment Board.

Discussion then turned to a requirement in our by-laws that the Board appoint a liaison to the Program Council. Jon offered to serve in that role if there were no volunteers. Jon was appointed by consent.

The Board then reviewed progress toward the Three goals established by the Cusp process.

1. Create a Search Committee for a part-time minister to begin in Spring 2024 by contract.

Liz Van Wye, Chair of the Ministerial Search Committee that the search was underway. Next step a 4 question survey to be distributed in several ways and discussed by the small groups. They are working with Hilary Allen our UUA Regional Representative and expect candidates to be interviewed in December.

2. Partner with another organization.

Our initial approach to Brewster was unsatisfactory. However we have agreed to sponsor a Boy Scout Troop under the leadership of Gail Eldridge. We have had contacts with Anne Bonney at the nearby Center for the Spiritual Journey. There are continuing possibilities with this group.

3. Continue working on increasing membership through diverse programming.

The discussion then turned to the process that will be employed for work by Scott Tayler, the consultant.

It was suggested that our direction was toward discovering what programs bring new members. How do we move from here and how do Scott's five suggestions after his Zoom with us which center on manageable size and organizational structure fit our goals of firming up our agreed congregational calling.

One or more members suggested that a sub group be established to lead and manage future discussions with Scott Tayler. Much discussion followed with no clear outcome of who should lead that effort. It was decided that the Board and program Council would continue those discussions in a special session in person or on Zoom on August 11 at 4pm. The group will report at our next BOT meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50.

Respectfully submitted, Joan Caputo, Secretary

