

First Unitarian Church of Oakland
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
July 25, 2017, 7 P.M.

Present:

Board Members: Laurel Egenberger, Michael Fitzhugh, Kate Lenhardt, Janet McFarland, Michael Rothhammer, Claudine Tong, Tom Smith, Suzanne Van Houten, Ella Wise

Absent: Lisa Rosene, Rev. Jacqueline Duhart (ex officio)

Visitors: Donna Fujioka, Bev Smrha, Claire Eustace, Steve Thomasberger, Dick Bailey, Katrinca Ford

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. There was an opening reading and chalice lighting.

Consent Agenda

Items approved:

1. The agenda
2. Appointment of Jeanne Rana to the Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) for the completion of the 2016-2019 term.

New members, Tom Smith and Michael Rothhammer were welcomed. Departing member Kenji Oshima was thanked in absentia.

JTW was asked to provide guidance for future multicultural exercises.

Notification of Actions Taken Since Last Meeting

1. Approval of June Minutes
2. Received Bev Smrha's resignation from the Personnel Committee
3. Received Kenji Oshima's resignation from the Board of Trustees

GA Delegates Report

Charlotte Dickson submitted a 2017 UUA General Assembly Report prior to the meeting [Attachment A]

Bev and Claire described their experiences at GA and reported on the recent formation of a UUA Commission on Institutional Change

COSM Report

Steve Thomasberger summarized top-line findings from the COSM Report. Appendices were also provided. [Attachments B and C] It was agreed that the board would discuss the report and start discussing how to pursue actions related to its recommendations. The board also agreed to hold a future vote on accepting the recommendations that the COSM shared in the report.

Break 8:15 p.m. - 8:23 p.m.

Finance report

Lisa Rosene provided a finance report, which Laurel presented in Lisa's absence. [Attachment D]. It was agreed to.

In the course of a discussion of the Building & Grounds line item, Suzanne moved that Tom Smith be the board liaison to the Property Committee. Janet seconded the motion. Passed.

Personnel Committee Update

Suzanne said that development of the Personnel Committee handbook remains in progress. She also noted that a new member of the Personnel Committee is needed and will put a notice in Chalice Chatter.

Ministerial Search

The board agreed to:

- Start work on putting together a nominating committee
- Assemble a small working group of the board to compose a message updating the congregation on the current status of the search and future plans for it.

De minimis employees serving on the board

Janet moved that we discuss allowing de minimis employees of the church to serve on the board. Ella seconded the motion. Following a discussion regarding whether or not de minimis should be defined as a fixed number of hours or not, the matter was tabled until a future meeting.

Ministerial Sabbatical

Laurel outlined a tentative schedule for drafting, posting, and accepting responses to a Sabbatical Minister posting.

Pastoral Care

Janet asked about the potential timing of hiring a pastoral care minister and agreed to reach out to Lisa to ask whether funds have been set aside to support such a position.

The meeting included a multicultural exercise, a process monitoring report, and closing words.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Fitzhugh, Secretary

