

First Unitarian Church of Oakland
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
December 19, 2017, 7 P.M.

Present:

Board Members: Laurel Egenberger, Michael Fitzhugh, Kate Lenhardt, Janet McFarland, Tom Smith, Claudine Tong, Suzanne Van Houten, Ella Wise, Rev. Jacqueline Duhart (ex officio), Rev. Jeremiah Lal Shahbaz Kalendae (ex officio)

Absent: Lisa Rosene (on leave of absence), Michael Rothhammer

Visitors: Steve Thomasberger, Rev. Kurt Kuhwald, Glen Dahlbacka

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. There was an opening reading and chalice lighting.

Consent Agenda

Items approved:

1. Accept JTW Report*
2. Accept Administrator's Report*

"Board Read"

Trustees discussed pp. 53-62 of *Serving With Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Practice*.

Housing Allowance

Claudine Tong motioned that we modify the agenda to create a five minutes to address Rev. Jeremiah Lal Shahbaz Kalendae's request to designate a portion of his salary as housing allowance. Janet McFarland seconded. Approved.

Tom Smith moved that we accept the request to designate the housing thing. Ella Wise seconded. Approved.

COSM

The board discussed Mary Foran's application to be a Community Minister affiliated with our church. A discussion of our congregation's overall approach to establishing such a relationship or, alternately, endorsement of community ministry ensued. Michael Fitzhugh moved that we enter a standstill period on the establishment of new community ministerial relationships until we establish how to best form and maintain those relationships. Kate Lenhardt seconded. The motion carried. Ella Wise and Kate agreed to further explore the matter. [Attachment A]

The board discussed proposed changes to COSM's charter as proposed. Janet McFarland moved that the board accept COSM's requested changes. Ella seconded. Approved.

Organ

Janet McFarland moved that we accept an agreement with Hupalo & Repasky Pipe Organs to work on selling the organ. Tom Smith seconded. Approved. [Attachment B]

Michael Fitzhugh moved that the steering committee be empowered to approve an MOU between the organ rescue group and the church on behalf of the board. Tom Smith seconded. Approved.

Break

The meeting paused for break at 8:05 p.m. and resumed at 8:15 p.m.

Stewardship

Janet McFarland outlined ongoing Stewardship activities. Confirmed total as of the day of the meeting was \$375,000.

Ministers' Reports

Pastor Jacqueline Duhart read her December report aloud and invited the board to consider how to better establish deep connections and relationship within the congregation. Rev. Sheri Prud'homme also submitted a report. [Attachments C and D]

Draft Budget Review

Laurel Egenberger shared an updated draft of the 2018 budget prepared by the Finance Team. Board members discussed potential adjustments, information needed for further budget decision-making. [Attachment E]

Suzanne Van Houten moved to approve the draft 2018 budget. Tom Smith seconded. Approved.

Salaries & Personnel

Kate Lenhardt moved that the personnel committee review staff salaries in light of current UUA guidelines. Ella Wise seconded. Approved.

Sabbatical Minister

We have an agreement with Rev. Jeremiah Lal Shahbaz Kalendae for sabbatical ministry. He starts to start Jan. 1. Pastor Jacqueline Duhart provided the board with a copy of her charge to Rev. Kalendae. [Attachment F]

Annual Meeting. Nominations

The Annual Meeting will be held March 13. Claudine Tong and Michael Fitzhugh will assemble the Annual Report.

Search Nominations

We reviewed the timeline for putting together the nominating and search committees.

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

The meeting moved into executive session 9:10 p.m. and was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Fitzhugh, Secretary