

First Unitarian Church of Oakland
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
May 22, 2018, 7 P.M.

Present:

Board Members:, Michael Fitzhugh, Janet McFarland, Michael Rothhammer, Suzanne Van Houten, Ella Wise

Rev. Jeremiah Lal Shahbaz Kalendae (ex officio)

Absent: Tom Smith, Claudine Tong, Rev. Jacqueline Duhart (on sabbatical)

Visitors: Dennis Rowcliffe, Steve Thomasberger

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

Consent Agenda

Items approved:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Accept report from the Ministerial Search Committee

Added to the agenda: Discussion of assignment of funds to BLUU

Appreciation of Ella Wise

Ella Wise is resigning from the board. To honor her service, board members spent some time appreciating her contributions to the board.

COSM Report

Steve Thomasberger summarized the work that the COSM has taken on in the past year. With changes to the COSM's composition, they're looking to recruit additional members to serve. Additionally, COSM would like the board's input on what ministries of the church it thinks COSM should consider. COSM has created a code of conduct for its members and some guidance regarding its process. He also noted that the COSM has been discussing how to explore ways to deal with microaggressions in addition to conflict resolution.

Minister's reports

Rev. Jeremiah is tying up loose ends as his last day, June 19, approaches. In his last few weeks of sabbatical ministry, working to ensure consistency of leadership in ministry over the summer and into Rev. Jacqueline's return. He's also planning summer worship and has nearly completed the summer worship calendar. He's meeting with Pastor Jacqueline on June 12 to debrief. He recommended that the board invest time in defining areas of responsibility and authority.

The service departed from the agreed format and timing agreed to. It sounds like a lot of good discussion came out of it. I think the community has been able to take some deeper learning from it.

Discussion of assignment of funds to BLUU

The UUA has asked all congregations in the association to raise a "fair share" for Black Lives of

Unitarian Universalism. Our fair share is about \$3,000. The service collected about \$2,100. However, because the process for raising the funds was not followed ahead of time, the board discussed affirming that designation.

Janet moved that we affirm the designation of funds. Michael Fitzhugh seconded. Passed.

Appreciation of Rev. Jeremiah

Since it was Rev. Jeremiah's last board meeting, the board members spent some time appreciating his contributions to the church during his sabbatical ministry.

Treasurer's Report

Janet reported that work continues to organize the finances, but that we remain solvent. It seemed that

Break

Special Meeting Preparation Check-in

Michael Fitzhugh provided an update on preparations underway.

Personnel Committee Update

The Personnel Committee's membership is evolving. With Ella's resignation, we need to appoint a new liaison. In the interim, the Committee's point of contact will be Suzanne Van Houten.

Retreat Planning

The board will hold a retreat on June 16 at Swan's Way. Laurel Egenberger will lead an orientation for new board members. We'll also draft priorities for the year ahead and work on calendar planning.

The meeting included a process monitoring report and closing words. It adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Fitzhugh, Secretary