UUCA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

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January 9, 2018

Present: Michele Gregory, Judy Harper, Bruce Larson, Diane Martin, James Schall, Dale Wachowiak, Mark Ward (ex officio), Mariah Wright.

Chalice Lighting and Opening: Michele

Net-zero Presentation: John Bates and Dan Clere attended the beginning of the meeting as members of the Net-Zero Subgroup to amplify upon a summary they had provided in writing on a plan to install a PhotoVoltaic system (PV) on the roof of Sandburg Hall. Dan began by painting the big picture as to why, long-term, in light of our core values and as an alternative to the "relentless use of fossil fuels," this installation would be important to undertake. John picked up from there with more details, arguing that, in the long run, PV would result in net savings. The urgency at the moment for getting a plan in place is that Duke Power will soon be offering grants that will offset the cost of installation by as much as 25%. Application details should be out by the end of January. We should be ready with a plan, especially since rebates go to the installer. We would need to have one lined up. John felt that the next step was for him to meet with Mark, possibly next week, with cost estimates. Alternatives for financing, like Green Bonds, could be explored. There was more discussion about cost and the need to hit a "sweet spot" between long-term gains and what our current budget could absorb.

Board Council Status: Bruce announced that Kate Hartnett has resigned in order to give greater attention to her family. This has reduced us to eight Board members. There are 16 months left on Kate's term. Bruce is willing to function as President until the annual meeting in June, as per the governance document. It was moved and approved to ask Leadership Development to search for someone to fill the vacant position until June. There was discussion as to whether or not to have a Vice-President in the interim. At some urging, Michele agreed to assume that role until her term expires in June. Her addition to the Board Council was moved and approved. Dale requested that any current Board member, who might be willing to consider the Presidency for next year, let one of the current officers know.

What's Happening: Mark amplified upon his monthly report. So far, the search committee has three well-qualified candidates for the Faith Development Minister position. Preparations for the Annual Budget Drive are proceeding nicely. The kick-off Leadership Reception is scheduled for January 28th at St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Bill Williamson Request: Bill Williamson came of age as an active RE participant and Worship Associate at UUCA. He is now requesting sponsorship from the congregation as he pursues a ministerial degree at Harvard Divinity School. He provided the Board a biographical sketch of his history with U.U. He plans to pursue a military chaplaincy subsequent to graduation. The Board approved the request for sponsorship.

LREDA Proposal: A proposal from the Liberal Religious Educators Association was funneled to the Board via Linda Topp. The organization is proposing voting membership status with UUA for religious educators, even those who are not necessarily members of their employing congregation. Mark explained the proposal and the issues surrounding it as he best understood them. The Board voted not to weigh in on the proposal.

Consent Agenda: The minutes of the Board's December 5, 2017 meeting were moved and approved.

Executive Session

Minutes submitted by Dale Wachowiak, Clerk