

Friends of Unity

Board of Trustees Meeting

January 14, 2020

Attendees: Rev. Kathy Long, Vic Huber, Linda Grosscup, Phil Erzen, Nancy Langeneckert, Sandy Argas, Gail Parker.

Starting time: 7:13 PM

Opening prayer and silent meditation: Kathy

Board minutes: The December minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Average weekly adult attendance for the year was 35.

Income: December's income was the highest one month income in recent memory. This resulted in a net loss (income versus spending) of less than 5% for the year. The fourth quarter income was \$708 over budget. Per the growth incentive in our agreement with Kathy, the overage is to be split evenly between Kathy and FoU.

Expenses: Total expenses for the year were less than 2% over budget. Those included growth incentives to Kathy for two of the four quarters, as well as the modest year-end bonuses to the paid staff.

The December and 4th quarter Treasurer's Reports were accepted.

Administrator's Report: Gail has prepared 1099's, as well as all giving statements, Kathy's letter and the events calendar for the month, which were mailed to about 65 people.

The Arts Council has agreed to give FoU space in a showcase in the lobby to display the monthly calendar and the current prayer letter written by Flossie. This will get the word out to those who use the building during the week that we meet there on Sundays.

Minister's Report: Kathy displayed the Ministry Organization Map and has added Soul Guiding Questions. Parishioners can sign up to make an appointment with Kathy to discuss one of these questions Kathy will present to them.

Minister exchange: Kathy has decided to make four of her eight Sundays off this year a minister exchange. There will be no cost to the church, since we won't be paying a guest speaker for those four Sundays. The savings will allow Tyler to hire guest musicians to work with him a few times a year. The first exchange is scheduled for February 2nd with Rev. David Old from Unity Spiritual Centre of Windsor.

Youth & Family/multigenerational: Anya – On Jan. 5th, 4 children participated; double from the first month. Amy is planning for the next Raising Conscious Children class which will be offered to the community.

Pastoral: Kathy expressed gratitude for Jane Fanta, who assists with pastoral care and outreach.

Kathy shared an annual planning program calendar, which will show seasonal retreats, Wisdom Teachers and more.

Kathy will lead the winter retreat, which has been scheduled for Feb. 28 – 29 at Vivian's Via Rosa Retreat Center, Waterford, MI.

Communications: This facet of our ministry requires a team, ideas and action. Sandy will ask Heather to see that communication cards are offered to first-time attendees. These cards are filled out and returned with names and contact information that would allow newcomers to receive all communications that go out to the church. More will be done after a team is in place.

Old Business: The Budget and Finance Team proposed a 2020 budget that was 5% over the actual income for 2019. The Team has decided to call this a “live” budget and will meet quarterly. We envision increases in income. After everyone's input was received, the Board agreed this was the time to stretch our vision. The budget was approved.

Annual Meeting Minutes Review (tabled from November): Minutes accepted.

Board member election process guidelines written by Phil and tabled from November: Phil will ask John Fanta to review the by-laws and suggest changes. (John wrote the by-laws.) Discussion of the rest of the guidelines was tabled.

Ministry Organization Map: Kathy would like to see a mission/vision statement come from this. She proposed a Strategic Planning session after church on Feb. 9th, following a potluck. Sandy will get sign-ups for the potluck. Kathy will ask Tracy Laveque to facilitate this session and added that Tracy would do this as a gift to our church.

Annual Check-in with staff: Kathy & Sandy re: Gail and Tyler, tabled from November. In progress.

New Business: Fourth quarter 2019 tithe: \$2,070. Kathy suggested different Unity organizations from which we continue to receive blessings/support. We agreed to send half this amount to the General Fund at Unity Headquarters, ¼ to GLURC (Great Lakes Unity Regional Conference) and ¼ to Empower Music.

Board Training: We'll know by the end of February whether the date will be April 18th or 25th at the Royal Oak Church. The Leadership Team and John and Jane Fanta will be invited to join us.

What's working well review with Senior Minister: Tabled.

Board of Trustees Retreat: Tabled.

Policies and Procedures/understanding and implementation: Tabled.

Communication Sunday topics: Reach out to those interested in being on the Communication Team
fourth-quarter tithe recipients & amounts
Feb. 9th potluck and strategic planning session

Vic knows of a church in Florida which received a Templeton Grant from Unity Worldwide Ministries. It enables the church to live stream its Sunday services and allows viewers to make donations on-line. The Board agreed to have him check into this.
Phil closed the meeting with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Nancy Langeneckert, Secretary