

Friends of Unity

Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting on April 21, 2020

Attendees: Rev. Kathy Long, Vic Huber, Linda Grosscup, Phil Erzen, Nancy Langeneckert, Sandy Argas, Gail Parker, Jan Whittington. All attendees participated in the meeting via Zoom.

Starting time: 7:04 PM

Opening prayer: Kathy

Minutes of March 24, 2020, meeting: approved

Treasurer's Report for March

Attendance:

- As we move forward with live streaming services, we will need a new way of measuring Sunday attendance.

Income:

- March total income was \$6,954 versus a budget of \$6,792.
Significantly better than January or February
Income from the Donate Button nearly doubled from the Feb. level.
- Year-to-Date (first quarter 2020) income was \$18,306 versus a budget of \$20,375.

Spending:

- March total spending was \$11,224 versus a budget of \$6,025.

A major note here is that the rent payment for the second quarter was registered in the books in March instead of April. This inflated our spending by \$2,850 versus the budget.

March spending also included the payment of the tithe from the fourth quarter income of 2019 (\$2, 070), which was budgeted to be paid in January of 2020. This, also, makes the March spending look much worse versus the March budget.

Gain/Loss:

- March showed a net loss of \$4,270.
- Year to Date showed a net loss of \$6,056.
- Adjusting for the prepayment of rent, the YTD loss was \$3,206, which exceeds the YTD budgeted loss by \$2,888.

Bank Balance

- Cash in the bank at the end of March was \$32,173.
- Adjusting for the prepayment of rent, the cash balance would have been \$35,023, which would have been a small increase from February.

Under this condition, our cash balance at the end of March would have been \$3,208 lower than at the end of 2019.

The March treasurer's report was accepted.

First quarter tithe: Our tithe for this quarter is \$1,830. Kathy asked if we'd consider sending part of the tithe to individuals, rather than just organizations. She had suggestions of people whose use of spiritual principles when using their talents to further our church's ministry had inspired her: Rev. Tracy Laveque, Sherry Wells and Sue Riley. After a brief discussion, Phil moved we divide our tithe as follows: UWWM general fund - \$1000; Rev. Tracy - \$200; Sherry Wells - \$400; Sue Riley - \$200. Motion unanimously approved. Kathy will write letters to be sent with the checks.

Finance team: Jan reported that the SBA loan program had run out of money last Thursday (April 16th.) More will come from Congress next week. Our application is just about complete. We'll be first on the list for the new wave of money. The amount we could receive that would be forgivable is \$8100. Jan has been working on this every day. She was confident we'll get this loan but reminded us that it isn't done "until the ink is dry." If the loan is approved, how we present this to the congregation is important. Kathy will send a snail mail letter next month.

Administrator's Report:

- The bookkeeping focus was on donations this past month.
- Continuing with the application for donate button on fb. We meet fb community standards. Gail is working with Kathy to determine what documents to submit.
- Easter envelope: 16 donations

As the Church Administrator, Gail has sent out MailChimp emails weekly with a letter from Kathy and announcements, including weekly virtual café links.

Minister's Report: Primary focus since the last Board meeting has been: 1) to create a livestreamed service; 2) meeting with Phil and Jan re: forgivable loan; 3) **COMMUNICATING!!** Those communications include letters sent by MailChimp, livestreamed messages "one day at a time" (8 AM) and "one night at a time" (9 PM), done daily Monday – Friday and now available on FoU web site; and much time spent on the phone; 4) UWM Focus Group with John Wimberly.

What is really nurturing and fostering the sense of community? (future survey?) Our web site is like our building now. We have people "coming in the door" primarily through fb channel. A few of these people are starting to show up in Kathy's Zoom class.

- Communications: Gail, Sherry, Kathy – many efforts made to shift our Sunday service to fb live. Overall: a new thought about how we handle such an increase in communications (weekly MailChimp, requests for links, fb, snail mail, Zoom) would be so wise, to alleviate stress and prevent burnout. We cannot continue to depend on one person – Sherry - for weekly Saturday rehearsals and the Sunday livestreamed services.
- New web page format: We have our web site through Accunet, working with Julie Braun. Their platform has changed. Heather is our resident expert on our new web site. In order to make the required changes, Accunet may charge up to \$300, depending on time spent. We unanimously agreed to allow Kathy, Gail and Heather to decide what the changes would look like.

Old Business:

- Election Process Guidelines tabled from Nov. Tabled
- Congregational Values and Ideas: Kathy/Rev. Tracy, next steps. Tabled.
- Bylaws Team – John/Phil/Kathy – will reset appointment.
- Soul Sizzling Sunday – August 2020 (no date yet). Focusing on having a volunteer with a large yard for location.
- Volunteer Appreciation Sunday – June 7, 2020. Kathy will ask Jane for ideas.

New Business:

- Ministry morphing during coronavirus crisis

Heart/Core of Community priorities

Now:

Prayer team contact tree increasing, with addition of Kathy

We have more followers now on fb.

Midweek Zoom classes – in addition to the Ernzens' Monday and Kathy's Thursday evening classes, Kathy will have a Wednesday daytime class for a few people who want to go deeper.

Soon: FoU and Unity Spiritual Centre of Windsor are hosting Rising Strong, a 4-week class beginning Wednesday, May 6 1 – 2 PM, facilitated by Mariette Jones, LUT via Zoom. Available on a love offering basis.

Mike McCord share/learnshop

Mother's Day

Future:

Re-entry to PCAC. We'll need a team to plan for this. BeLive may continue when we're at PCAC.

- Communication

Next snail mail will include a report from the treasurer.

- 10th anniversary: 10 ways to celebrate

Still in the planning stages. Kathy suggested a virtual variety show, maybe the Sunday after Mother's Day.

Phil closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Nancy Langeneckert, Secretary

