

**UUCSC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (approved via e-mail)**

August 19, 2020- Wednesday

6PM-8PM

Zoom Meeting

**Present:** President Natalie Herbermann, VP Mary Fulton, Clerk Linda Dupuis, Kai Migliaccio, Nancy Dean, Rosemary Galiani, Dave Hurdis, Bill Rodriguez, Rev. DL Helfer.

**Absent:** Treasurer Mary Alice Kimball

**Guests:** Jean Bowen, Aline Couture

**Call to Order: 6:05 Natalie Herbermann**

**Reading of Our Covenant: Natalie Herbermann**

**Invocation: Rev. DL Helfer**

**MOTION: Natalie Herbermann moves to ratify the minutes for the July 15, 2020, Board Meeting as approved by email. Seconded. Passed unanimously.**

**Rev DL Helfer: Reports and Updates:**

1. The search team has hired a new congregational administrator, contracts have been signed. Susan Rogala will start at the end of August.; she will start regular hours at the beginning of September. All staff contracts have been signed.
2. This fall worship will be virtual, including coffee hour. Board members are asked to encourage participation. Zoom operators are needed, either experienced or willing to be trained, Rev. Helfer is asking Board members to look for volunteers.
3. Rev. Helfer has had a very busy summer; he will take some time off next week. He has six weeks leave coming and will spread that out over the next congregational year.
4. Rev. Helfer has been receiving a lot of questions regarding reopening services. He asks Board members to reiterate the reasons for continued virtual services.
5. Rev. Helfer plans to start a course on the 7 Principals and to include the proposed 8<sup>th</sup> Principle.
6. This will be a long haul; we should be aware of what we can and can't accomplish.

**Social Justice: Jean Bowen:**

1. Rev. DL Helfer has told the committee that he feels that we should be doing something to promote racial justice, especially after the George Floyd incident.
2. Three rallies have been held in South County. We are predominantly white, we need to ask what our role is in interfacing with people of color and indigenous people.
3. The Social Justice Group has met every week since June 17, 2020. Lately 20 -25 people participate via Zoom. Most of us have all grown up in white communities; we need to examine our biases. There are many books and other resources for our community to consult. We want to take action.
4. Some of the issues and initiatives are;
  - a. Defunding the police: the group has looked at police budgets; how can funds be reallocated.
  - b. TASK: High School students who meet weekly; some of our members attend to support the group. They will bring their demands to the school board, and recommend changes to the school curriculum.

- c. Indigenous people of Rhode Island. \$93,000 has been raised from the General Assembly attendees for the Tomaquaug Museum, a great relief to Loren Spears, director. The money will be used to reopen the Museum and towards building a new museum.
  - d. SURJ: Showing Up For Racial Justice. The aim is to learn about bias and to take action. Loren Spears participates. Jonathan Sigman will take over as facilitator. The group is addressing issues such as access to water rights for fishing and racial profiling at traffic stops. The *UUCSC News and Updates* will have information on supporting indigenous people.
5. Jean Bowen tasks the Board members to educate people and to promote the proposed UUA 8<sup>th</sup> Principle. We support the struggle to dismantle racism.

“We the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by building a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”

### **Treasurers Report and Presentation of the 2020-2021 budget: Aline Couture.**

Aline Couture reviewed the proposed 2020-2021 budget (A printed copy is on file with the Clerk.)

Some highlights:

1. All offices have been rented.
2. There is no money allocated for fundraising. Social events such as the Arts and Crafts fair and Dialing for Dollars will not be held due to COVID 19 precautions. A virtual auction is a possibility.
3. 40 pledge cards have not been returned. Income is estimated based on past pledging records.
4. We received \$24,000 from PPP which is now a grant.
5. Hopefully outside groups will again rent the space post COVID-19.
6. The finance committee recommends the conversion of the heating system from oil to gas. Jean Burke is looking into National Grid incentives.
7. Donation to the UUA: we want to send \$5000 (twice last year's amount) because of the support we have received from the UUA.
8. Condo fee has increased by 10%.
9. The deficit of \$14,000 may be offset by grants, National Grid incentives, donations, etc.
10. The proposed budget will be voted on by the congregation.
11. A Zoom meeting to discuss the proposed budget will be held on September 6, 2020.

### **Motion by Natalie Herbermann to bring the proposed 2020-2021 budget to the congregation for a vote at the annual meeting on Sept. 27, 2020.**

The Board Members discussed methods of getting documents relevant to the Annual Meeting to the congregation by Sept. 4, 2020. A packet of documents pertaining to the Annual Meeting will be sent to members by e-mail. A notice will be posted in the *UUCSC News and Updates* to request a hard copy.

**Motion seconded and approved unanimously.**

**Bylaws revisions: Kai Migliaccio and Natalie Herbermann:**

The proposed changes to the Bylaws were discussed.

Natalie Herbermann will be scheduling a Zoom meeting to discuss the changes to the Bylaws.

**Annual Meeting- September 27, 2020**

1. Kai Migliaccio, Linda Dupuis, and Mary Fulton will be stepping down from the Board of Directors.
2. Rosemary Galiani has volunteered to be the Vice President.
3. Regarding Zoom meetings: Board members should share with UUCSC members that people can call in to Zoom if they don't have computer access.

**Adjourned: 8PM**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 6-8PM via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Dupuis, Clerk