



Minutes of the Telephonic Meeting of the Board of Trustees March 17, 2020

Board Members in Attendance: Catherine Barnes, Sandy Wade, Tawana Allen, Ann Doss Helms, David Reynolds, Rocky Hendrick, Margie Storch, Colin Hood, Cindy Hostetler

Not in Attendance:None.

Staff in Attendance: Doug Swaim, Jay Leach

Staff not in Attendance: Eve Stevens

Call to order and welcome

Check-in. Everyone shared how they were doing, how they were coping with the coronavirus and related quarantine, and any concerns they had.

Approval of February Minutes. Approved.

Right Relations Covenant Document Review.

- There was a discussion of various language in the draft, including whether the word “covenant” had an overtly religious connotation, and whether another word might not have such a connotation? Discussion of “promise” or “pledge.” Noted that “covenant” aligns with other Unitarian Universalist Congregations, and to the extent we would own that identity it would be a recognizable term to use. Catherine will respond with that feedback.
- Next Steps: The task force would like to have a presence in Freeman Hall and then to more focused conversations or e-communication for feedback similar to what we did with the name. Would hope that there would be a special meeting in the fall to vote on.
- Discussed what steps would occur once (and if) the covenant were approved, such as discussing whether to implement structures for conflict resolution, etc.
- Doug noted that additional resources are being placed into having Zoom meetings in various aspects so maybe the task group can utilize this technology

Coordinating Team Reports / Current Business:

- On the live-stream we had 230+ unique IP addresses tuned in on Sunday and there is a contribute button on there going forward but it is a concern as that is a factor in budget is the passing of the offering baskets.

- Small group ministries be using Zoom. Martha is reaching out to see what is in the pipeline and what we can use zoom instead? Great learning experience for what we can do with these technologies even after we are out of isolation.
- The staff has put into place a grouping of the congregation into groups of 20, by geography, with an email with the contact information and pictures where so the group can stay in touch. Have a list of questions for discussions to get that sense of community and expand the support network if needed.
- Staff has been putting together lists of names that the professional staff will be called – people that are not able to get out as easily as others. Also staff will reach out to people that live alone as well as health care workers. Would love to get feedback on these virtual participations and virtual greetings.
- Tree Removal: Four trees, initial report was that they should all be taken down. Met with a rep from Heartwood and instead give a proposal to keep the trees for a while longer. Awaiting that proposal. Risk is that they would damage the building. Exploring alternatives to taking the trees down now.
- Roof: Was included in capital plan last fall. Price tag is in the range of \$12,000 to \$15,000. Have applied to MET for a grant to cover the bulk on that. If the grant isn't approved, it is regardless something that should be done in a couple of years as it will only get more expensive.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05