

UUCC Board of Trustees meeting, Nov. 17, 2020

Board members in attendance – David Reynolds, Ann Helms, Cindy Hostetler, Rocky Hendrick, Paul Wilson.

Board members absent: Catherine Barnes, Tawana Allen, Lisa Hagen.

Staff in attendance – Eve Stevens and Alesia Hutto full meeting, Jay Leach arrived about midway through.

Call to Order

- Chalice lighting words (Cindy)
- Vision statement, mission statement and leadership covenant readings

Check-in

Eyes and ears

Lots of enthusiasm for senior high service.

Book discussions so far have drawn relatively small attendance but good discussion and mix of participants.

Question was raised about how well we're connecting with older members and others who may not be adept or enthusiastic about connecting electronically. Noted that Jane Kusterer has done some good electronic discussion groups for older members. Also, some socially-distanced in-person activities are being added.

October minutes: Approved unanimously.

Current business

Measurement: The working group met again and prepared two draft documents -- a timeline summarizing when and how the board gets reports related to finance and physical plant matters, and a stab at a vision related to those issues consistent with policy governance. We realized belatedly that not all members had seen these in advance.

There was discussion of how to measure progress toward ends when those ends will be shaped by a new Call to Action and our work on Widening the Circle of Concern. Questions were raised about how much measurement work can take place before those are settled. The board did not arrive at clear answers.

The question was also raised about tabling this discussion until December in hopes of having more board members and members of the measurement group present. Paul said he would like to keep working on this by compiling some “where we stand now” information on things like attendance and participation that would measure engagement with our social justice mission. Jay noted that the board had recently instructed staff to incorporate more attention to spiritual growth. Cindy said she’d like to see Paul/the group tackle some of the more difficult areas. The measurement group will figure out next steps.

Right relations: Catherine relayed by email that the Covenant Team is working on revisions based on the board’s September suggestions.

New board member: The board discussed three potential candidates. Because we did not have full bios on all of them, Cindy and David agreed to send the information later for an electronic vote.

Coordinating team reports

As presented.

Members voiced interest in how the wood would be used from the trees being removed - there’s a desire to see it repurposed, possibly for our congregation.

Eve reported that we are starting to get applications for interim director of lifespan education, but the Dec. 1 deadline may have to be extended.

“Widening the Circle of Concern” exercise

Members talked about how their assigned chapters relate to our mission, vision and call to action. There were some gaps due to absences at the meeting and the challenge of using a Google spreadsheet to log observations.

David said the next meeting will focus on the new Call to Action; he will send readings in advance related to policy governance and writing policy. Cindy said board leadership will also look at how to prioritize the work.

Other business

David raised a question about contacting news media for coverage related to rebranding. Eve reported that the next step for the Focus 2020 project is updating our signs. She said marketing will wait until we are meeting in person but plans are being developed.

Meeting adjourned around 8:45 p.m.

