

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ASHEVILLE

Board of Trustees Minutes – February 4, 2020

Present: Board members Louise Anderson, Michael Beech, Cecil Bennett, Vice-President, Nora Carpenter, Clyde Hardin, Judy Harper, Clerk, Ryan Williams, President, and Mariah Wright; Mark Ward, ex officio; and guests, Charlie Marks, Liz Rumbaugh, and Tory Schmitz, members of the Interim Ministry task force selected by the Board.

Opening: The meeting began with the lighting of the chalice and an opening reading submitted by James “Buck” Schall, read by Ryan in Buck’s absence.

Transitional Ministry Handbook: Board members will receive copies of the handbook shortly. We went over the timeline from the handbook, noting that we are now at the end of the first step, since we have identified and confirmed an Interim Search Committee, who will serve with Ryan as a task force for acquiring an interim minister. At this meeting, Ryan filled out the Notice of Ministerial Transition and sent it to the UUA Transition Office, thus giving official notice of our request for an interim minister. Review of Contents of the Interim Packet: We were unable to go over the Interim Packet contents because we could not reach the site this evening, as we are not on the list of requesting congregations yet.

Discussion of the Janus Workbook: Ryan introduced the Janus Workbook, which was created as a guide for interim ministers, but he feels that the information in the workbook will be helpful to board members as we continue to communicate with members of the congregation about the role of an interim minister and what we can all expect in the coming months. The workbook highlights five developmental goals that a congregation must accomplish if its successor ministry is to be effective. The interim minister works with the congregation to achieve these goals: Coming to terms with church history, discovering a new identity, allowing needed leadership to emerge, renewing denominational linkages, and committing to new directions in ministry. Board members were encouraged to read and study this very lengthy and detailed guide.

Clyde volunteered to do this month’s Board Blog, which will deal with the interim ministry concept and the process of acquiring an interim minister.

What's Happening: Mark highlighted continuing plans for the Annual Budget Drive, including our kickoff on Feb. 16 and conclusion on Mar. 8 with Celebration Sunday. The reception at Givens was cancelled due to low response, but those residents who wish to attend the larger ABD Reception at St. Mary's will be offered transportation. Budget planning is underway, with request forms being sent out to those groups who normally submit budget requests. This year's pledge income projection is \$670,000. The Leadership Development Committee is holding an invitation-only event on Feb. 23 for identified potential leaders in the congregation. This year's Coming of Age group will participate in a UU justice program in West Virginia. They have a Trivia Night fundraiser set for Feb. 22. Two Intergeneration Worship Services will be held, the YRUU service on Feb. 23 and the Coming of Age service on May 17, and two Whole Church Services will be held, on Mar. 8, Celebration Sunday, and on April 19, Earth Day/Flower Communion. The Wednesday Thing will undergo a change beginning in March; there will no longer be a meal provided, although those who wish to do so may bring a meal to have before Vespers. Attendance has been low enough that the cost of subsidizing the meal and paying for clean up afterward has become too much to justify. The new web site is performing well.

Limitation H: With respect to communications from the Executive to the Board of Trustees and Congregation, the provisions of this limitation are being met. One change made to the governance document under Limitation H concerns making the financial books of the congregation, etc. available for audit within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year. This time limit is being changed to 90 days, as it was found that 60 days was insufficient time to complete these reports.

REVIEW OF BOARD PRIORITIES 2 AND 3:

1. Widening Our Welcome – Intercultural Development Inventory: Ryan updated us on IDI presentations by a board member at the Wednesday Thing every 2nd Wednesday. He has done one presentation so far. The next one will be Feb. 12.
2. Board Visibility: Every 4th Wednesday, there will be a board member at the Wednesday Thing to familiarize participants with board members and to answer their questions. The next 4th Wednesday will be on Feb. 26. We will

also communicate with the congregation via inserts as needed in the worship service program, through the weekly E-News, by means of a direct weblink from the UUCA website, and through tabling events in Sandberg Hall. Board members were asked to sign up for Wednesday Thing presentations and for Sunday tabling, as well as for greeting and ushering at Sunday services. A group photo of the board was taken at this meeting.

Board Tasks Form: Buck, Clyde and Cecil maintain our policy governance document and will make the needed change in Limitation H which was discussed at this meeting. Judy and Nora have the task of recruiting General Assembly delegates and submitting their names for approval by the board. Mark reported that registration for this summer's GA in Providence RI is now open, so Judy and Nora will begin attending to this task.

Approval of Minutes: The December and January minutes were moved and approved unanimously.

Closing: Ryan did the closing reading, the chalice was extinguished, and Mark left the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The board went into executive session to hear Cecil's report concerning plans for the going away party and a gift for Mark. Various venues have been investigated for an estimated 250 attendees. Food will be catered heavy hors d'oeuvres. No alcohol will be served at this family event. Parting gifts and anticipated event expense were discussed. Clyde made a motion that the board authorize the Celebration Committee to spend up to \$3000 from the contingency fund for this purpose. Nora seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. We will revisit this issue should Cecil need more funds.

Minutes submitted by Judy Harper, Clerk

March Volunteers: DISHES—Ryan, DINNER—Mariah, READING—Louise, BLOG- Buck

NEXT BOARD COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday, February 25, 2020

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, March 3, 2020