

UU Nashua Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting
May 28, 2013

Present: Ellen Fisher, Lance Pratt, Mary Licking, Jenn Morton, Pat Ladew, Kate O' Shea, David Hudson, Mike Wilt, Reverend Olivia Holmes, Harry Purkhiser
Excused absence: Kathleen Griffis, Donna LaRue

Note: There are two vacant positions on the BoT. Ellen noted during the February meeting, and the BoT voiced no objection, that since Rev. Olivia and others had suggested that a 13-member Board might be too large and a bylaw change ought to be considered, and since the year was more than half over, the Nominating Committee could be notified that the Board has chosen not to appoint new members in mid-year.

Timekeeper for each agenda item of the meeting was David. Lance performed the chalice lighting. A Check In was performed during which a BoT member could share a word or two with the group. Some members did.

A motion passed made by Harry and seconded by Lance to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the May 14, 2013 minutes.

The BoT received a report from Ellen, Mike, and Rev. Olivia regarding the May 21st meeting with UU Nashua financial leaders (including David Hudson of the BoT who co-chairs the Stewardship Committee) and the Ministerial Search Committee. The recommendations that arose from that meeting were three (3) steps having to do with the budget itself: 1) Inform the congregation of the budget situation immediately, 2) Have the 2013-2014 budget right-size expenses (and that action could be phased in and / or it could be conditional on income received during the year), and 3) make available at each worship service an opportunity to contribute to the church's operating budget. Further, the following step is recommended for comprehending the big picture: The BoT undertakes an effort to understand why we are where we are with respect to the decreases in membership and pledging units.

A motion passed made by Jenn and seconded by Harry that proposed a balanced budget for 2013 - 2014 without specifying its details.

A motion passed unanimously made by David and seconded by Lance that approved the proposed Bylaws changes presented by Harry for the committee he and Ellen comprised [see uunashua.org - specifically -

<http://www.uunashua.org/gov/2013/PresentationofProposedBylawsRevision.pdf>) and it is also located in the electronic file of Board of Trustees documents in the Additional Documents folder on the UUCNEB, look for the May 24, 2013 document entitled "Presentation of Proposed Bylaws Revision(1).pdf]

A motion passed unanimously made by Jenn and seconded by Harry that approved the proposed New Priorities presented by the committee comprised of Ellen, Pat, and Kate (see enclosed UU Nashua Priorities document below signature block).

See List #1 for the tasking for giving announcements prior to the service.

See List #2 for a possibility BoT members are to be aware of.

The next scheduled BoT Meeting is Tuesday, June 11th, 2013 (see List #3 for other important near term dates).

Rev. Olivia gave the closing words that accompanied the extinguishing of the chalice.

Lists #1 through #3

List #1

Church Service

Announcements:

June 02 Jenn

List #2

Possibility to be aware of

- 1) There may be a move in regularly scheduled BoT meeting times to the second Monday night of the month.

List #3

Thursday, June 6th, UU Nashua Annual Meeting

October 2013 date TBD Special meeting of BoT for policy governance training, Part I.

February 2014 date TBD Special meeting of BoT for policy governance training, Part II.

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Mary Licking,
Clerk, Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua,
New Hampshire

Board of Trustees Proposal for UU Nashua Priorities, June 2013 through May 2015

Creating a Church Community that Includes People of All Ages (Previous: Retain Youth & Attract Young Adults)

Preamble: Children, youth, and young adults are our church's future. It is vital that our programs and activities are inclusive of and meaningful for people of all ages. It is vital that our programs and activities promote connections between people of different ages.

Vision: Young people feel welcomed into our church community. Children who grow up in our church share an enduring sense of acceptance and belonging to this church. Young individuals and families with young children are attracted to our church and smoothly integrated into our church family.

Measures of Success: Attendance and participation of children, youth, and young adults in the broad range of church programs and activities has increased.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Director of Religious Education, the R.E. Committee, all other committees as pertinent, and all of us.

Building Congregational Relationships (Previous: Improved Communication Project)

Preamble: Establishing clear and effective two-way communication is a critical component in the development of healthy or "right" relationships between individuals and groups. When we are in right relationship, we relate to one another with honor, respect, love, and care.

Vision: All church committees, groups, leaders, and laypeople take responsibility for widely communicating information about their activities, both in reporting what they have done and inviting others to participate in future events. At the same time, all church committees, groups, leaders, and laypeople take responsibility for keeping up with church communications coming their way.

Measures of Success:

- Over the next year, the congregation will have developed and adopted a covenant of right relationships that describes how we all agree to work and be together in community. There will be an increase in the number of members of the congregation who are included in e-mail distribution lists and active on the church's Facebook page.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Public Relations Committee, all other committees as pertinent, and all of us

- All church policies will be reviewed and clarified.

Responsible Party: The Board of Trustees

All-Church Social Justice Focus (Previous: All-Church Social Justice Project)

Preamble: Developing awareness of and working to address social justice issues is a meaningful part of our individual searches for truth and meaning. It is vital that our church encourages its members and friends, including children, to do so. As a focus for social justice work, our church has chosen to work toward ending hunger and homelessness in our local area. Since a well-organized network of organizations (both the Nashua Continuum of Care and GSOP) is already working on these issues, it is

vital that our programs and activities encourage engagement in these local efforts, both for individuals and the church as a whole.

Vision: Our entire congregation recognizes that social justice work promotes compassion and caring in all human relations and is a means to spiritual growth. The congregation is known for our social justice work in the local community, especially our work on ending hunger and homelessness.

Measures of Success:

- **Education:** Within the next 2 years we have made at least 6 major efforts that will serve to educate our church members and friends, as well as the wider community, about our social justice focus. This education will include information about how individuals can become involved in solving the problems that contribute to hunger and homelessness.
- **Service & Advocacy:** All members of the congregation will engage in a “service project” and donate time, talent and energy in the area of ending hunger and homelessness; this includes an increase in the number of members volunteering at Community Dinner, and active participation from every RE classroom.
- **Financial Support:** The congregation will raise and donate at least \$15,000 to associated organizations that are focused on hunger and homelessness issues.

Responsible Parties: The minister (as our Chief Executive Officer), the Director of Religious Education, “Council of Committee Chairs,” all other committees as pertinent, and all of us.