

UU Nashua Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2013

Present: Ellen Fisher, Lance Pratt, Mary Licking, Jenn Morton, Pat Ladew, Kate O' Shea, David Hudson, Mike Wilt, and Reverend Olivia Holmes.
Absent (excused): Harry Purkhiser.

Timekeeper for each agenda item of the meeting was Jenn. Kate performed the chalice lighting with the reading, Something in a Summers Day, by Emily Dickinson.

A background review was conducted by asking the Board if there was any Board help needed with projects the Board members were involved in or knew about. No one responded with a plea for help.

The following on-going operational initiatives were noted (A.-F.):

- A. Spend Sunday at Church, September 8th. Kate and Jenn reported the plans of the committee.
- B. Leadership Development - Ellen will inquire at the Nominating Committee.
- C. Covenant of Right Relations - Transition Team subcommittee - Kathy Fletcher and Mickey S. Shepherd (with Lori Lerude) have submitted a proposal and have been in touch with Olivia to confirm that they have Board endorsement to begin on this.
- D. Small Group Ministries - Covenant Groups - Spiritual Development Committee (aka Adult RE) Chair, Jerry Ross. An initiative is underway to start Covenant Groups, the life of which will be understood from the outset to be finite. The current Covenant Groups will not be affected by this initiative.
- E. Council of Committee Chairs - Rev. Olivia is the proponent.
- F. Safety Policy Development (drills for fire and threats, safety for children and for the sanctuary) - Rev. Olivia tasked the staff last year, and Donna LaRue suggested that sample safety policies be obtained from other nonprofits. There is a need to track these documents down. Volunteers for this are to be determined.

The Board of Trustees work for 2013-2014 includes the following (A.-D.):

- A. The Ministerial Search Committee has requested support from the from the BoT for 1) the proposed compensation package, 2) the draft ministerial agreement, 3) an explanation for the "drop in membership numbers" and the

operating budget shortfall, and 4) an explanation of how we are implementing the Strategic Plan. The BoT agreed to provide the support. Regarding 2) above, Ellen will ask the Personnel Committee to provide advice.

B. Unity Consulting was hired last year by UU Nashua to provide 10 hours of advice concerning the implementation of policy governance in UU Nashua. Ellen and Rev. Olivia have started meeting with that company under the terms of the contract. Policy governance training will be offered by the Northern New England District (NNED) and UU Nashua is allowed to send 3 congregants. See List #1 below for designees, city, date, and time. Rev. Olivia will attend but her sponsorship for the event will be from the NNED and therefore, her registration will not count against our allocation.

C. Existing policies are being reviewed and where required, revised.

D. Mike's proposal has been that the Norma Rowley Student Loan Fund give scholarships rather than loans, but in order to do so, the amount available must be determined and policies and procedures must be devised to allow scholarships to be given out. Mike will work on the former, and Mary will work on the latter.

A discussion was conducted as a start for working on understanding our membership numbers issue. Tracking was performed on the assignments made at the June meeting regarding data gathering, and it was noted that Chris Parker, Director of Religious Education, made a submission (see the Ask the database attachment with title, Church School Attendance...). For future meetings are scheduled discussions: How to inform/involve congregation in decisions about balancing this year's budget AND How to arrive at proposed compensation package for next settled minister.

The next regular BoT meeting is Monday, September 9th, 2013. See List #2 below for other near term dates.

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

Lists

List #1

Policy governance training, NNED, Concord, NH, September 13th, 10 am - 4 pm.
Designees are (1. Through 3.):

1. David

2. Pat
3. Kate

List #2

Near Term Dates

Sunday, September 8th, 2013 Spend Sunday at Church

Monday, September 9th, 2013 Next regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting.

Sunday, November 10th, Beyond Categorical Thinking Workshop

Reminder: regularly scheduled BoT meeting times have been moved to the second Monday night of the month.

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Mary Licking,

Clerk, Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua,

New Hampshire

Attachment to Minutes:

Church School Attendance & Registration Information 2002-2013
UU Church of Nashua

YEAR	REGISTERED	FALL	SPRING	WHOLE YEAR
2002-2003	120	92	80	86
2003-2004	121	84	85	85
2004-2005	116	79	72	75
2005-2006	91	79	71	75
2006-2007	126	88	72	80
2007-2008	108	80	72	76
2008-2009	97	86	76	81
2009-2010	79	73	70	71
2010-2011	96	66	62	64
2011-2012	81	61	60	61
2012-2013	89	61	54	58

Ask the Database:

- How many pledge units did we have for each of the past 5 years? Mike
- How many voting members are reflected in those numbers? Mike
- RE attendance -- registered vs. shows up for as many years as possible Chris, above
- Sunday attendance Sherri
- Member vs. Non-Voting Member numbers for the past 5 years? Mary, done per clerk's annual reports
- Count of people who attended annual meeting- previous years? Mary, done