

People's Church Board of Trustees
May 2, 2023, 6:30-8:30pm
Minutes

Trustees: Bolar, Hampel, M. Johnson, R. Johnson, Lewis, McClurkan, Peters-Sparling, Bair, Hackley
Minister: Rev. Rachel Lonberg **Ex. Officio:** Hunt **Admin.** Emrich

OPENING

1. Chalice lighting/opening words - Hunt shared So that we might, together, shine (Wickstrom)
2. Check-in: Attendees shared stories of being on the receiving end of kindness or gentleness.
3. Participants affirmed covenant, mission and vision.
4. Board members approved minutes of April 4, 2023.
5. Board members approved agenda.

MONITORING & OVERSIGHT

6. Staff & Committee reports - Rev. Rachel
 - a. Photo membership directory in wish board, which needs 3 people to make it happen;
 - b. A special collection Sunday, May 7 will be held for El Concilio Kalamazoo in support of their efforts to fund a new location.
7. Financial Reporting - Hunt
 - a. Treasurer's report highlights - March results pledges at 105%, fundraisers 30% over, 119% of budget; YTD expenses:: personnel at 95%, office exp a little over, B & G way over (mostly due to tree removal), utilities (gas, electric, water) 35% over; NET: \$13K surplus!
 - b. Annual report highlights from investment committee
 - i. Perpetual pledge endowment fund next year will be \$12,990;
 - ii. Few changes in funding sources noted: Soc Justice Committee rather than getting an assessment, will have their own stock holdings of about \$2,500; church savings account in the amount of \$34,370 was established (withdrawn from Palmer Fund) for special projects such as Afghan relief, piano and minister's discretionary. It was noted Afghan families the church has supported are largely on their own and members are being reimbursed from this fund.
 - iii. Current holdings = \$549,253
 - c. Piano fund status: approximately \$2K raised; \$5-10K donation likely forthcoming; there is enough momentum to purchase when a suitable piano is found.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

8. Budget Approval - Rev. Rachel shared the big picture: everything is going well but the money part is harder right now mostly due to past benefits from payroll protection plan, living wage increase, and the overall decline in the market. Highlights from our lengthy discussion about the proposed budget:
 - a. Approximate \$20K deficit;
 - b. Staff to receive an increase, but not what is needed to reach the goal of Step B in UUA guidelines;
 - c. Supplemental stewardship campaign with target of \$40K being planned for the fall;
 - d. Funding for building improvements / maintenance (e.g. compressor, windows, insulation, etc.) not reflected in the proposed operating budget. Rev. Rachel noted the Finance Committee is working on this. Hackley will contact D. Hartsough to participate in process.
 - e. Board unanimously approved proposed budget with no changes.
9. Preparedness Committee Proposal - Bolar reviewed highlights from second revision of report:
 - a. Due to budget constraints, recommendation #7 EPS Access Control Solution temporarily withdrawn;

- b. Recommendation #8 New Locks and Keys approval not needed (may pursue simpler solution in interim);
- c. Recommendation #1 Hazardous chemicals, etc. G. Heckman working on this;
- d. Recommendation #5 - Program for Preparedness of Ushers, Greeters, etc. to be led by Rev. Rachel;
- e. Discussed possible Palmer Fund to be source of funding in the future;
- f. Recommendations #1,3 (in process with B & G),5,6 be approved as mandates (to become the basis for policy moving forward). Unanimously approved.

10. Planning for May 21, 2023 Annual Meeting - Rev. Rachel:

- a. The following motions were made, seconded and unanimously approved for an agenda:
 - i. Vote to approve minutes from 2022 Annual Meeting
 - ii. Vote for nominating committee members
 - iii. Vote for slate of candidates for board (3 year terms)
 - iv. Vote for approval of proposed budget
- b. The following appointments were made:
 - i. Tellers appointed to count votes in the Commons: M. Johnson, R. Johnson
 - ii. Tellers appointed to count votes on Zoom - Lewis, Rev. Rachel
 - iii. Tellers appointed to count mail ballots on June 5 at 2:00 p.m. - Hackley, Hunt, McClurkan
- c. Budget pre-meeting May 7 - Rev. Rachel encouraged all board members to attend (start 10 min. after the service ends) this session for the congregation.

CLOSING WORDS - Hunt shared words for reflection (Brene Brown)

ADJOURNMENT 8:42