



Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis

Board of Trustees Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2024

6:45pm – 9pm Library and Zoom

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 922 5263 7488

Chalice Lighting/Check-in

In Attendance: Jan, Jen, Charlie, Ann, Nicole, Olga, Noemi, Graham, Larry, Sarah DT, Jamie, Diane

Review and Approve August meeting minutes

The August meeting minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously with no amendments.

Affirm Covenant

Fiduciary

● **Facilities Update – Larry Werner and Rev. John**

- Roof/Deck Update: The flat roof is urgently in need of repairs, as well as the roof over the office and classrooms. The estimated cost is \$104,000. The deck also needs structural improvements, estimated around \$20,000, while the sanctuary roof repair is expected to cost approximately \$24,000.
- Vote: The board voted to borrow \$104,000 from the endowment to proceed with roof repairs. Further discussion on deck and post repairs will follow once more information is gathered.
- A new MOU will be written with the terms of payment of interest on the loan until it is repaid.

● **Finance Officer's Report – Charlie Gross**

- The cash flow is positive with approximately \$75,000 available for operations. Reconciliation issues persist due to the transition between financial systems, but efforts are underway to resolve these.
- Action: Continue monitoring the financial reporting process and ensure updates at the next meeting.

Governance

- **Approve Interpretation of the End Statements – Rev. John**
 - Rev. John spoke about his interpretation of the church’s End Statements. This document was given a yellow light, meaning the board generally approved but wanted to see the connection between this document and staff goals that the board will review next month. Rev. John requested an additional meeting to review the interpretations because he feels it is important to the understanding and mission of the church and wants buy in from the board to be done before the next board meeting via zoom.

- **Ministerial/Program Support**
 - No immediate concerns were raised on the Minister’s Report.

- **Updates from Board Committees:**

- **Capital Campaign Exploratory Committee**
 - The committee discussed the ongoing exploratory phase for a capital campaign. The committee had approx. 150 conversations with congregants, done via one-on-one meetings as well as after hours. It revealed genuine enthusiasm from the congregation, and the committee has been collecting ideas for potential capital projects. These ideas were grouped into three categories: necessary, future-oriented, and visionary.

 - A key part of the discussion focused on the anticipated fundraising potential, expected to bring in 1.5 to 2 times the annual budget. If the goal is achieved, some funds could be used for infrastructure, paying back our endowment, and the remainder could support expanded programming or mission-based work.

 - Next steps involve presenting a consolidated list of ideas to the congregation in December, followed by financial feasibility studies involving major donors. The campaign is tentatively scheduled for spring 2025. We will likely, proceed with the exploratory phase and vote in December to have a Capital Campaign, however it would occur in the spring of 2026, coincident with the stewardship drive. The board may decide to push the vote back to the Spring Meeting once we have discussed it with the committee.

- The board may decide to schedule a meeting with Mark Ewert, the capital campaign consultant, to guide the next phase of planning and prepare for the December congregational vote.
- **EPIC**
 - The EPIC committee is planning a spring 2025 conference with a theme being A Road To Trust, which will offer opportunities to review UUCA's history with the 8th principle. The keynote speaker Fred Muir has been invited, and the committee is working on finalizing dates for the event based on his schedule.

Congregational Engagement – *FYI no action needed at this time*

- September 22nd - BBC/Widening the Circle
- Mosaic Fall Conference 2024
- December 8th - Congregational Meeting

Old Business

- Adopt Board Goals and Action Plan for 2024/2025 Church year
 - Nicole created a yearly overview for the board goals to help us stay focused and cover the goals we want to get to this year. This will help with the transition to the future board as well.

New Business

- March 9th – Board to prepare dinner at Lighthouse

Check-out/Closing/Extinguish Chalice

The meeting concluded with a check-out and extinguishing of the chalice, as well as a group photo for our Community of Communities Wall. Let the record show that Graham was not pleased he would look like the kid that missed the yearbook photo since he was the only member online, and therefore on the screen, for the photo. 😊