Unity of Madison - Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 27, 2023 6:00 pm

Attendees: Richard Bunch (Zoom), Joanne Ruzicka, Denise Landkamer, Elaine Stebleton (Zoom), Joe Dieter, Steve Roberts, Nancy Sundal, Mary-Claire Glasenhardt

1. Pray-In - Rev. Richard
2. One Minute Check-ins
3. Vision Mission, Core Values statements
4. Steve moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mary-Claire seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously. The agenda included the March Board Meeting minutes, the Treasurer’s Report, the Tech Team Report and the LTT Report. The Search Team Report was removed for discussion.
5. Both Barry Roberts and Marylynne Mehl have stepped down from the Search Team. There is one person who is highly likely to join the team but has not yet given a final answer. Steve has indicated that he is willing to step off of the Search Team to reduce the number of trustees (3) currently who are members. Revisions to the ministerial vacancy package have been completed and they will be sent off to Unity Worldwide Ministries this week.
6. Rev. Richard reported that he will be facilitating a training workshop for the Prayer Chaplains this Saturday morning. He is also working with Jessica Riphenburg to plan a Sunday service event involving the children at the time of the summer solstice in June.
7. Several people have been approached regarding the possibility of filling the vacancy we currently have for an alternate trustee on the Board. It was speculated that this position is difficult to fill at this time because of the extra work involved due to the absence of a senior minister. Nancy is going to speak with three people about joining the Search Team and about being an alternate trustee.
8. Joanne has been talking with contractors about having repairs done to the church building that will help to move water away from the structure and prevent future leaks and flooding in the basement. She brought forward a recommendation to accept a bid made by A Team Construction that would move the downspout on the north side of the church near the front door over to a spot more in the middle of the building. They would also replace and test the north-side gutter and rebuild the roof on the portico at the northwest corner of the building. The bid included the option to have a trench cut in the lawn and piping run under the sidewalk to move water from the downspout out onto the lawn.
9. Nancy then talked about a conversation that she had with a contractor earlier in the day who is proposing to replace the sidewalk on the north side of the building, working on restructuring the front door entrance space and possibly running a sidewalk out to Tompkins Drive. This was related to the roof bid with the idea that we would not want to possibly pay two different contractors and have one run a pipe under a section of sidewalk and another replace that section.
10. Nancy moved to accept the At Team bid. Joe seconded. The A Team bid was accepted but the option to run piping under the sidewalk was declined. The trustees felt that that job is within the means of the trustees to accomplish.
11. Bachmann Construction attempted to begin replacement of the skylights last week but discovered that they had ordered the wrong model. There is currently no timeline on when new skylights will arrive. The trustees do not want to absorb any overages from the original bid due to this mistake by Bachmann and the Board is willing to look for a different contractor if Bachmann won’t honor their quote.
12. There was discussion about how to carpool to Sheboygan for the board training that will be conducted there on May 6. Joanne was tasked with discussing a monetary contribution to Unity of Sheboygan to help with their expenses and was authorized to offer up to $300 as she sees appropriate.
13. Evin and Mindy Wilkins have established a social media company called Sasquatch Social which will help companies and non-profits manage their media content. The Wilkins have offered Unity of Madison a discounted start-up package. Steve will contact them to find out more information and report back in May.
14. The monthly tithes were blessed.
15. Rev. Richard prayed us out.