

Unity of Madison - Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:30 pm

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

Rev. Richard prayed the meeting in.

One Minute Check-ins

Vision, Mission, Core Values statements were read.

The Treasurer's Report was removed from the Consent Agenda. Steve moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Joe Dieter seconded. The motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was discussed. Among the topics were the disposition of a bequest Unity of Madison has recently received, along with the status of the capital campaign in relation to the upcoming expenses of a new parking lot and skylights. Nancy agreed to make a request to the Congregation for early payment of capital campaign pledges in instances where the pledge could be easily made now, as a way of lowering the amount of money that will need to be drawn from our line of credit. Steve moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Mary-Claire seconded. The motion passed.

Richard gave the Minister's Report. During his report, we discussed a request from the Youth Ed department for assistance with the growing number of young children who are showing up on Sundays. They can be a lot for one person to manage and Jessica sometimes has difficulty locating helpers. Richard agreed to speak with her about deferring a decision on the request until after the arrival of a new minister. Richard will also give Jessica a 6 month job review.

We then discussed the need to purchase a proper movable stand for the large and heavy TV/monitor that has been gifted to us recently. Having the monitor movable will facilitate the use of the monitor in classes and meetings. A \$200 budget was approved to purchase the stand. Steve and Ron Ruzicka will work on making the purchase.

We then spent time planning the upcoming visit of ministerial candidate Rev. Debra Carter-Williams and her husband. We finalized plans for events that would take place during the weekend and figured out who would be providing refreshments after the Saturday workshop and Sunday Q&A with the Congregation. We also picked a restaurant for a Friday evening dinner. Mary-Claire volunteered to re-format the evaluation form to be used at the workshop and Sunday service. Steve will run an article from UWM in the e-blast that outlines what are the

recommended guidelines for questions for a ministerial candidate.

Joanne reported on a Solar For Non-Profits webinar that she attended. Non-profits can get tax credits and/or help in investing in solar panels.

The organization that put on the Solar For Non-Profits webinar was Solar United Neighbors. The Federal tax credits are made available by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. The federal tax credit amount is 30% of the cost of the solar implementation for the tax years 2022 - 2032. In tax year 2033 the federal tax credit is 26%. In tax year 2034 the federal tax credit is 22%. There may be additional state and local tax credits available. Two methods of purchasing solar were described. Churches may implement solar with "Direct Pay", where the church pays for the solar implementation, with or without financing. The second method is for a third party to purchase the solar implementation. Whoever pays for the solar implementation receives the tax credit. Third Parties sell back the electricity to the church at a reduced cost compared to the original cost of electricity from the utility.

Richard will check with his church in Virginia to find out what method they used to get their solar panels.

Assignments:

- Richard will talk to Jessica about hiring a helper.
- Richard will give Jessica a 6 month job review.

- Steve will work with Ron Ruzicka to buy a TV stand.
- Nancy will make a restaurant reservation.
- Denise and Steve will provide food for the hospitality after Rev. Debra's workshop.
- Mary-Claire will re-format the evaluation form.
- Steve will run "Considerations for Q&A Session" in the e-blast.
- Richard will check with his Virginia church about solar panels.
- Trustees who count on Sunday will take the trash bins to the curb.
- Steve will run Rev. Debra's bio in the e-blast.
- Steve will get the Board documentation updated on the website.
- We will all read the document about potential questions for a ministerial candidate.

Richard prayed the meeting out.