**Church Council Minutes**

**February 26, 2019**

**Present**: Charlie Kindleberger, Steve Smidowicz, Sue Fazio, Clint Cruse, George Sessen, Kathy Wire, Rev. Gary James, Lynn Hunt

**Calendar Review**

May 5th will be the Congregational meeting to potentially call a ministerial candidate

March 15th Unfish Fry

April 7th – Clark Lecture (people are encouraged to sign-up in Fellowship Hall or on Eventbrite (it is free)

May 4th – Fellowship Dinner

**Mid-Winter Meeting**

It was felt that meeting went well.

**Search Committee – Candidating Week**

It was relayed that the Search Committee is still busy with pre-candidating work. They will be starting to plan candidating week soon and will call on the Council to assist in that. They anticipate that a little under $5,000 will be available in their budget for the week.

**Council Planning Progress**

Committees are still encouraged to set goals and discuss them with the ministerial candidate.

**Reports from Clusters**

Facilities had two successful work days.

Garden Play Space – there have been further discussions with people about the play area. For the most part there has been a lot of support for the design. Those with concerns have been engaged. There have been some interesting suggestions to add to the space.

Membership – Sue Fazio is greeting visitors every Sunday. She is still in need of an active committee. There was a successful newcomer orientation on Sunday Feb. 24th. Sue suggested having a form in the pews for visitors to give their contact info (since many come in too late to sign the visitor book.

Stewardship - Canvass – Steve Smidowicz – Canvass letters have gone out. All leadership is encouraged to submit pledge cards early. Affirmations will be given during the services during the month of March.

Committee budgets will probably be comparable to what they were during this fiscal year. The goal is to not take monies from the General Fund. There is a goal to increase UUA funding.

Steve, Lynn and Kathy Wilke will send the committee’s a financial update and ask them if they anticipate any funding needs for the next fiscal year. Board and Council members are asked to bring pastry items for the canvass brunch. People are also asked to help with set-up.

Programming

Trivia Night – Lynn Hunt – attendance was down somewhat but was very successful financially.

Partner Church Committee would like a change in their Fund Policy to have monies available for travel scholarships and have submitted a proposal to Kathy Wire who is sending it to Finance Committee.

Social Responsibility

Winter Outreach – George Sessen gave an update – issues in the city are not being resolved. There have been no fatalities from cold this year. There are issues of abuse with a synthetic marijuana that is being used in unhoused community.

Discussion of people asking for the sandwiches on sandwich Sundays. It was the sense of George Sessen to not distribute on site because of capacity to handle distribution. There was a policy set on this several years ago – Lynn Hunt will forward to George.

**Fellowship Dinner**

Charlie passed around the brochure that is put together for the event (honoring long time members). Charlie asked for volunteers to help with the interviews for the brochure.

Unsung Committee Chair – Committees will be asked to supply nominees and then the names will be supplied to the council and board and to select.

Board and Council will be asked to bring wine and hors d’oeuvres.

A pasta main dish will be provided, and people asked to supply side salads, etc.

Sarah Dashner will be asked to do the bridge center pieces again.

We will recruit for people to help with set-up and clean-up (Sue Fazio offered to help with set-up)

Gary will ask the musicians who are playing for the Rumi service to play during the evening.