

January 2021 Church Council Meeting Notes

Present: Lisa Cary, Clint Cruse, Sue Herzberg, Cathy Rauch, Erin Milligan, Rosemary Lawton, Rev. Kim Mason, Lynn Hunt

Absent: Steve Smidowicz

Call to order and chalice lighting

Opening words

Report of Policy Board Representative: Rosemary Lawton, Policy Board VP

The discussions on Mission have been going well. The MidWinter meeting is this coming Sunday and will use the information from the discussions.

Andera Berin has joined the Nominating Committee.

People interested in the online Leadership School should fill out the application.

A staff recognition fund has been established.

If anyone has suggestions for leadership you should contact Emily Colton, liaison to the Nominating Committee.

Report of Minister: Rev. Kim Mason

Is working on a project to have a little, free pantry on the church grounds. Working with Social Responsibility and Facilities about this.

Is just beginning to explore putting together a Legislative Response group with other area UU churches. Has asked Kevin Kellogg and Heidi Meister to be involved.

Reports of Cluster Chairs:

- Steve Smidowicz – Stewardship Cluster
 - Finance - The church is in OK shape financially WRT the budget.
 - We are about \$21K ahead for the year as pledge commitments are on track, and most expenses are in line.
 - Plumbing repair costs could be covered w/reserves as discussed by the board.
- Clint Cruse – Facilities Cluster
 - Is working on coordinating the small pantry.
 - Maintenance: plumbing problem
 - We are talking with an additional plumber about just proceeding with a smaller repair project. Waiting for the proposal.
 - Plans are underway to put a gate into the Kingshighway fence closest to the building for ease in landscaping.
 - Group is receiving bids about removal of the ash tree in the Memorial Garden.
 - Discussions on what to put in the tree's place are underway.
 - A work group did some repairs to the flat roof over the Op Shop. Will do a full seal in the spring. When that is done the plaster in the back hall can be redone.

The closet outside the library was remodeled (old shelves taken out and new ones put in).

- Sue Herzberg – Programming Cluster
 - RE Committee had a retreat with the Interim RE Director to look at plans for when to hold various classes, etc.
 - Update on Worship Committee Survey - Committee is meeting soon and then will report out on the survey.
 - ERDE held a solstice event. Next celebration will be the spring equinox.
 - Playground status
 - Created a design of monkey bars for the trellis. Is contacting the City about permits.
- Erin Milligan – Growth & Engagement Cluster
 - Report of phone calls by Membership Committee. Phone calls were completed and a report was sent to the Council. Overall, calls were greatly appreciated.
 - Plan to make calls again in late spring/early summer.
 - Claire Birge stepped down as chair of Care and Concern. Judi Crouch, Karen Siegrist and Larry Dusenbery have taken over responsibilities. Rev. Kim and Lynn Hunt met with the new chairs to discuss logistics and discuss committee processes.
 - Alliance is creating a t-shirt!
- Cathy Rauch – Outreach & Social Action Cluster
 - Partner Church is having a fundraiser online on Feb. 19th. Will be a showing of a film.
 - Welcoming Congregations needs a new chair. Is looking for people who might want to do that.
 - Social Responsibility is planning to have more speakers in the spring. Donald Jeffries is planning to remain as chair.
 - Toward Justice -- the last ARREST class is coming up and it will be discussed what the group wants to do next. Might do another ARREST type of project for this particular region. Other things are being planned but nothing has been decided upon.

Church calendar

- Sunday, January 31, 11:30 am -1:00 pm: Midwinter Meeting online

Old business:

- Defining committees vs working groups vs task forces
 - Rosemary Lawton worked on definitions of the committees, groups, etc.

New business:

- General discussion on how best to honor Elliott Smith, custodian, who recently passed away.

Closing thoughts and adjournment

