

**Minutes First UU of STL Policy Board Meeting  
Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM – Via Zoom**

**Meeting was called to order by President Margaret Weck at 6:36pm**

**Members:** Emily Colton, Sarah Francois, Pamela Geppert, Joel Hickmann, Rosemary Johnston-Lawton, Joel Minor, Gene Rubin, Margaret Weck, Kathy Wilke, Steve Wilke - **Absent:**

**Staff:** Kim Mason, Lynn Hunt

**Council Chair:** Lisa Cary

**Opening Words** - Pamela Geppert - *The Work of Happiness* by May Sarton

**Reading of Board Covenant** - Joel Hickmann

**Process Observer Identification** - Sarah Francois

**Consent Agenda** – Motion to approve by Gene Rubin Seconded Steve Wilke Approved

Minutes of April 12, 2021 Meeting

Report of the Minister, Kim Mason

Report of the Administration and Programming, Lynn Hunt

Report of the Interim Director of Religious Education, Lily Rappaport verbal report

Report of the Board President, Margaret Weck

Report of the Church Council Chair, Lisa Cary

**Guests:** Lily Rapaport, Interim DRE reported on the RE program.

**Business**

**Canvass Team**

Sue Ashwell and Kay Dusenbery did not attend for a final canvass report. The Board expressed their thanks for all of the hard work on a well run canvass. At meeting time we had reached 96% of our goal. We are in a good position. We are solvent and have worked hard.

**Congregational meeting planning**

A. Nominations & Leadership Dev. Committee report of slate of candidates (Emily C.)

B. It was announced that a short Board Meeting would follow the Congregational Meeting on Sun. May 16 for the purpose of transitioning to the new Board.

C. Volunteers needed:

1. Designated Secunder - Steve Wilke
2. Counting quorum & monitoring chat (Lisa Cary and Joel Minor)
3. Motion to Adjourn - Emily Colton

D. There was discussion about voting protocols. It was decided to use the same format as last year using Zoom polling.

E. There will be a script run through before Sunday. All those connected with the meeting and those that are speaking are encouraged to attend.

### **Finance Committee and Budget update – Gene Rubin and Kathy Wilke**

A few aspects of the budget. \$510,000 pretty much covers what we did last year with the committees. In order to balance the budget we have to take about \$28K from the General Fund. It's only allowable this year because of a surplus from this year which is unlikely to repeat next year. Last year we had the congregation's approval to take up to 3.45% from the endowment. The money has been transferred into funds we can use related to contingencies. Some will be used to fund the technological needs of a hybrid system. Money from the memorial fund will be used for new tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall. There is also a special gifts fund in which there is freedom to use. As a point of information, it was reported that we would need to increase pledge amounts by 7% in order to increase the committee budgets; another 7% in order to not depend on the general fund; and another 7% if we are to increase our UUA dues contribution. We are continuing to move our contribution up for UUA - but we'll need to continue to increase it to reach our fair share contribution.

Rosemary - Committees need to have regular reports on how their funds are managed.

Discussion of a fund-raiser for the Hybrid Worship Tech Project was put on hold. It was revealed that the Board was gathering donations to the Special Gifts Fund for the Hybrid project to honor Margaret Weck. Point of information - For the Hybrid Worship project the Council approves the specific bids. The Board okays the general use of funds. The task force has the ability to spend funds approved.

### **Credentialing of Delegates to GA and Regional Assembly**

A. There will be a June 13 session for the congregation about statements of conscience. (June 6 will be the meeting date if Social Responsibility has a speaker on June 13)

First UU is eligible to have 5 voting delegates. There is a contested election for a Board member for the UUA. Policy Board. What are the expectations of the congregation for those directed to be delegates. Congregational study action - Come to a general consensus about what the denomination is asking for.

B. Point of clarification - All delegates are free to vote their conscience. Delegates will be asked to report back to the congregation afterward.

### **Reports from Board Liaisons**

A. Committee on Ministry (Steve Wilke)

No report

B. Personnel Committee (Sarah Francois)

Staff Recognition Fund Policy update status. The RE committee has posted for the RE position. There is progress toward getting someone for maintenance and cleaning.

C. Nominations & Leadership Development Committee (Emily Colton) The nominations for the annual meeting were presented last month.

Policy Board

Board President – Gene Rubin (2022)

Vice President – Steve Wilke (2022)

Secretary – Alison Lamothe (2022)

Treasurer – Kathy Wilke (2023) – Agreed to complete 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term

Trustee – Jason McClure (2024)

Trustee – Mitch Herzog (2024)

Trustee – Susan Lammert (2024)

Church Council

Council Chair – Cathy Rauch (2022)

Cluster Chair Coordinator, Outreach and Social Action -Lisa Ross (2024)

Cluster Chair Coordinator, Facilities – Clint Cruse (2023) (Agreed to complete 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year of his term)

D. Covid Task Force

Working on guidelines for gradually reopening the building. Theoretically we are on track to opening the building to small groups in July. Homecoming Sunday is the target date for the first in-person service.

E. Fathman & Ross Awards

Sarah Francois and Pam Geppert organized a joint committee. The committee met on Monday, April, 26. The nominee for the Ross Award is Karen Siegrist. The nominee for the Fathman Award is Cathy Rauch. The Board supports the nominations. Pam Geppert reported that she interviewed the two awardees and will be finishing up writing the introductions.

Hanging of Flags in the Foyer - a Gay Pride/Transgender support and Black Lives Matter banners were installed. This was an informational item, Facilities approved it. It is consistent with the new mission statement that will be voted on at the annual meeting.

**Annual Meeting**

Things to do - Advertise the June 13 session concerning the General Assembly. Rosemary Johnston-Lawton will write up the description of a General Assembly delegate. Board members will be asked to participate in the meeting by making motions, seconds, etc. Margaret Weck will serve as the moderator.

The Mission statement as a by-law change and the slate of candidates are the only items that will need a congregational vote.

**Check in with Process Observer** – Did well.

**Adjourned at 8:18PM**

**Next Board meeting** Sunday, May 16, 2021 after the annual meeting via Zoom

Minutes submitted by Pamela Geppert, Secretary