

Unitarian Universalist Church of Jackson
Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 19, 2021

Attendance

Past President: Eric Saulters-Wood
President: Stacy Callender
Treasurer: David Voisin
Secretary: David Morgan
Trustee: Bob Keller
Quorum Reached

Justin McCreary, Minister

Agenda

1. Opening Reading and Chalice Lighting
2. Covenant
3. Check-In
4. Minutes
5. Treasurer Report
6. Minister Report
7. Ministry Teams, Advisory Councils, and Taskforces Reports
8. Pledge Drive Evaluation
9. Update on Building the Future Fund
10. Updates on Annual Priorities
 - A. Internal & External Communications
 - B. Leadership Development: Appointments & Vacancies
 - C. Establish Process & Infrastructure: Revise Policies & Procedures
11. Building Use Policies & Procedures
12. Process Observer Report Out
13. Check Out
14. Extinguish the Chalice
15. Set Next Meeting

Opening Reading and Chalice Lighting

The chalice was lit at 6:55 p.m., beginning the meeting. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, members met using the Zoom video conferencing app.

Minutes; Treasurer Report; Minister's Report; Ministry Teams, Advisory Councils, and Task Forces Reports

Eric Wood motioned to approve the December 22, 2020 board meeting minutes and reports as presented. David Voisin seconded. All members approved.

Pledge Drive Evaluation

The board discussed the 2021 Time, Talent and Treasure campaign, including what worked well and what could be improved upon for next year. As of the board meeting, 22 pledge units – 32 congregation members in total – had been received as part of this year's pledge drive.

This 2021 drive deadline was the 2020 winter congregational meeting. Members must have pledged for the new year by then in order to vote at the meeting. The campaign was publicized on the church website, Facebook, and during Sunday services. Pledge cards and board letters were mailed to members, while past members and friends were sent donation cards and a board letter. Stamped envelopes with UUCJ's mailing address were also included in the packets. Members also had the

option to pledge using the online form on the website. While members did use both the mail-in and online options, only one donation card was sent back from a former member or friend out of the 60 or so mailed. This suggests the donation mailers cost more in time and money than they generate in money.

On the Saturday before the winter congregational meeting, the board called members who hadn't yet pledged. These calls were effective, but occurred so late in the process that the 2021 budget had to be updated less than 24 hours before it was to be presented to the congregation.

It was suggested that next year's campaign start earlier, possibly October. Stacy Callender said that at a minimum the theme, imagery, script, and other promo materials should be completed by then. But, Bob Keller instead proposed the board keep the pledge drive simple and directly call each member. Since church membership is fairly small, this could be done quickly and easily. This would save the time and effort of running a campaign scaled for a much larger church, and likely bring the exact same pledge income. Eric advised calling members who haven't yet pledged for 2021. Did they forget, move, or did they have concerns with the church the board should know about? Justin recommended he and the CAREing make the contact first without mentioning pledging – just check in and see how those members are doing. He also suggested coming up with a strategy for involving young adults in the church leadership.

Update on Building the Future Fund

David V. had reconciled the funds set aside within the main church account for the building remodeling expenses. As of the meeting, he had received a least one donation to the new building fund.

Building Use Policies & Procedures

David Morgan mentioned that a group wanted to rent the sanctuary January 30. He asked if the church had or needed to have any COVID protocols in place before finalizing the contract. Stacy found a COVID rental waiver online that could be adapted to be used as an addendum to the current UUCJ rental agreement. David M. volunteered to revise the form. David V. motioned to approve the form. Eric seconded. All members present voted in favor.

Update on Annual Priorities

Discussion on annual priorities was tabled until the next meeting due to time. A date for a board strategic planning retreat will be set at the next meeting.

Extinguish the Chalice

The chalice is extinguished at 8:30 pm. The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021.