

# **Unitarian Universalist Church of Jackson**

## **Board of Trustees Meeting Tues. September 27, 2022**

### **Attendance:**

Past President: Stacy Callender

President: Katie Coates

Secretary: Dianna Albertson

Treasurer: Lisa Dunn

Trustee 1: Bob Keller

Trustee 2: Evelyn Moore

Other attendees: Snowdancer

Personal Check-in Time: 6:38

### **Agenda:**

1. Call to order and verify quorum
2. Opening words and lighting of chalice
3. Review agenda and approve consent
4. Approve minutes and review reports
5. Pledge campaign 2022-2023
6. Architectural proposal summary
7. Garden/well update on water
8. GS4GND vote on attached file
9. Lease/renter updates and current issues.
10. Ministerial search

### **Call to order and verify quorum**

Quorum reached

### **Opening words and chalice lighting Time: 6:35**

Katie opened with readings and lit the chalice.

The board met via Zoom.

Zoom meeting link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98945246207?pwd=d1dwMTFzYkIIRVY2bC9KQWpkOUJ5QT09>

### **Approve minutes and review reports Time: 6:45**

No reading of previous meetings. The last meeting was on ministry and water.

Lisa had no report on finance because she has not been feeling well.

Bob Keller joined meeting. Time: 6:49

**Architectural proposal summary Time: 6:52**

The Building Future Team members: David Morgan, Katie Coates, Eric Wood & Stacy Callender.

Stacy reported that the initial meeting with architect was Sunday and the contract was sent Thursday. We need to have a set of standards for ourselves, write our own program and that things need to be done in phases. Stacy is working on a bubble layout e.g., adding a back entrance on the building and is also working on the documents. Documents need to be transferred from Eric to Maureen and someone needs to meet with Maureen to get her signature.

Katy said she will reach out to Eric and meet with Maureen to get this done.

Lisa will take the check to church this week.

Evelyn joined meeting. Time: 7:00

**Update on garden and well. Time: 7:04**

Katie listed the team members: Esther, Katie, Adrienne, Morris Mock, Aton with Sue and Dianna sitting in on a meeting. She explained that we are fortunate to have Mississippi Coalition Rising (MCR) and Gulf South for a Green New Deal (GS4GND) sharing their expertise with our garden plans and the well issues. Katie told the board that Aton from MCR has recommended an on-site meeting and that he said that we need a ground swell off the parking lot.

Katie gave an update on the meeting about getting the soil tested for spring preparation before planting. At this time no design has been finalized.

The board discussed taking a vote on signing on with GS4GND. Bob asked if a vote was needed, if there is an urgency, and shouldn't it be done by the congregation. Lisa mentioned some people want more info and would like to read up on it. Katie said that they have accepted us so to vote for approval is a gesture of good faith. We have already received a \$4,000 check from GS4GND. Stacy stated that we can call a special meeting with a 14-day notice.

The board decided not to make a motion to vote at this time.

**Rent/lease for Old Church 7:24**

Stacy - we need the invoice for roofing and we need a receipt for repairs from the tenant.

**Pledge campaign 2022-2023**

Stacy - the most effective way to engage people is by personal contact & personal interaction, that people respond to the vision e.g., the plans for the garden & kitchen. She recalled the successes with Circle Suppers in the past and suggested doing a spaghetti dinner which shouldn't be a big production.

Snowdancer wanted someone to speak to the congregation this Sunday and take up an offering at that time. Bob added that we can distribute flyers. It was noted that Dave Morgan has made flyers which Stacy and Lisa offered to locate.

Stacy discussed the complexities of deciding who can vote, not just based on monetary contributions but inclusive of those who have shown up in past year. In the bylaws, if someone has shown up in the past year, they are considered active but the board can determine what the expectations are for a friend vs. a member. Bob suggested members need to take classes before joining.

Bob - we should reach out and make call members of the church. Katie - we need to have a meeting about making calls to tell members about what is happening. Bob and Stacy agreed we should do this in November.

Lisa left the meeting. Time: 7:47

### **Ministerial Time 7:56**

Bob reported that changing ministerial leadership is in progress and the board should provide the finances and the cost for a part-time minister is about \$3,000 a month. Snowdancer noted that he has been writing all the scripts.

Snowdancer said Maureen wants Rev. Edie Love on board and that Rev. Love is going to Fargo, North Dakota once a month so it may be possible for her to join our congregation once a month, as well. Snowdancer requested a check for Rev. Love and Lisa stated that she will get that done this week. Katie would like to grow the congregation before bringing on a minister and then look for someone in the local community.

Stacy expressed her concern that we are operating without data from the congregation and need to get a survey done. Bob has a survey (questionnaire) which can be used.

Stacy wanted the Board to remember what we need a minister for, such as, Rights of Passage and asked if we wanted to have a process for members to reimburse a minister's fee for a service. The board was in agreement with this.

### **VOTE**

Bob made a motion – "I move the UU church of Jackson, in our absence of a minister, continue to pay for the Rights of Passage by Snowdancer". Stacy seconded it and all approved.

### **Parking 8:20**

Katie said that we don't have a system of power and we need to determine who should delegate responsibilities. Louise expressed interested in tending to the parking lot but there needs to be more than one person. There is a safety issue and questioned if this should be a moneymaking venture. Stacy said we need to be aware of problems with money collection on site and that someone will have to have change readily available. Evelyn brought up concerns about the culture around the games and Stacy mentioned the potential of fights occurring. Katie questioned the church's liability, and to avert this by having a sign stating people will be

parking at their own risk and having a donation box to avoid anyone having to collect money. Stacy commended Katie on her goodwill in trusting people but raised the likelihood of the donation box being stolen. Stacy said other people shouldn't be making money off the property but can ask for a donation. Katie suggested a sign with a scan code for a donation and Snowdancer noted it is too late for this season.

Stacy pointed out that even if we have a "park at your own risk" sign we could still be liable and Evelyn requested a motion be made to look into doing this next year and consult a lawyer pertaining to liability issues.

#### **VOTE**

Katie motioned to obtain a lawyer for consultation regarding a sign for the property and liability.

Bob seconded it and all approved.

#### **New Business for next meeting**

From Katie for Discussion:

1. Proposal for Partnership
2. Changes for bylaws for membership

Stacy will have records from the last meeting for the pledge campaign.

Closing: Katie recited a quote followed by the board doing a personal check-out.

Chalice extinguished Time: 8:43

New board meeting scheduled: Tuesday 10/18/22