

First Unitarian Church of Des Moines
Board of Trustees Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2020
6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING to discuss the proposed 1st Quarter Budget and the Unsung UU Awardee. [The call for the meeting to be a Special Board Meeting was initiated by Sue Huber, with agreement of several other Board members.]

In attendance (all via Zoom):

Board Members: Gene McCracken, Katherine Vance, Sue Huber, Mike Lauer, Patty Notch, Bill Brauch, Sarah Jensen, Scott Clair, Rev. Amy Shaw

Staff: Charles Lewis, Director of Finance and Administration
(Several church members also participated.)

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Board President Sue Huber. Gene McCracken moved adoption of the agenda. The motion was seconded and adopted via voice vote.

Discussion Items

1. Church 1st Quarter Budget. Sue led a discussion of the budget as it related to whether the 1st Quarter budget included a cost of living adjustment (“COLA”) for staff. Charles Lewis discussed the COLA. The Board and congregation members present discussed giving a COLA to staff this year. No action was taken as the budget submitted earlier to the congregation that was approved the Board included a COLA and no motion was offered to amend that.

2. Board members and congregation members discussed the fact that the congregation will not be reimbursing the folks who buy food for the FEDS meals as we have in the past. Charles Lewis responded to questions and discussed the issue in detail, including stating that we’ll find the money somewhere. He noted that two pledges had just come in.

3. Opening the Building. The Board and congregation members discussed the fact that the Board recently approved allowing the church building to be used to prepare food packets for low-income immigrants by the Knock and Drop non-profit group. At least one congregant questioned whether making this exception to building access would result in further requests for exceptions. Following discussion no further action was taken.

4. Unsung UU. Bill Brauch moved the Board go into closed session. The motion was seconded and passed via voice vote. The Board discussed the matter in closed session.

The Board voted to move out of closed session. The Board voted to adjourn.

(Submitted by Bill Brauch, Secretary)