

DRAFT

Minutes

First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

Special Congregational Meeting

September 27, 2020

Welcome and Chalice Lighting

Patty Notch, BOT President

Call to Order

Barb Royal, Moderator

11:32 a.m.

Establish Quorum

Barb Royal, Moderator

Reported 68 members are required for a quorum. At 11:38 a.m. established we had 69 members checked in establishing quorum.

Welcome: Patty Notch, Board of Trustees President, welcomed members to the digital meeting of First Unitarian Church of Des Moines for the purpose of approving the budget remainder of the fiscal year. She instructed members that the chat screen would be used for submission of questions and for those members sharing a device to register participation. Al Powers is our parliamentarian, Scott Clair is our timekeeper and Fern Stewart is our secretary.

Charlie Lewis, Director of Finance and Administration, reviewed the current budget climate stating additional pledges had been received since May and new members had joined the church. The Board had reached the decision to furlough paid RE and childcare effective October 1. At this point we have a surplus budget thru June with a 5% hedge reduction versus the usual 3% hedge reduction.

It was moved by CW Smith, seconded by Louise Alcorn to approve the 2020-21 budget as presented.

Al Powers reported the Finance Oversight Committee had reviewed in detail the document and found it reasonable and conservative with room to cutback if necessary.

Greg Nichols, Board member, stated the board had reviewed the document along with the recommendation from the FOC and determined it provided an appropriate balance to ensure worst case options. It will allow critical functions and services, programs reasonably sustained and therefore the board agreed to forward to the congregation as presented.

Discussion included the funding of social justice which is still possible through PushPay and reflection of the reduced usage of the building. Also addressed was reduction in the staff salaries and loss of bookkeeper. There was no further discussion.

Vote was performed via chat room, 79 yes, 1 no. Approved.

It was moved by Bill Brauch, seconded by CW Smith to adjourn.

Patty Notch extinguished the chalice.

Fern Stewart, Secretary