

First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

Board of Trustees Minutes | Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Board Members: Kevin Boeckholt, Jeremy Guenther, Crystal Loving, Kathryn Sutton, Natalie Mason, Heidi Lackmann

Staff: Rev. Meredith Garmon, Tracy Aukes

Called to order by Kevin Boeckholt at 6:03 PM

Timekeeper & Process Observer: Jeremy Guenther

New Business

Interim Evaluation

- Submitted, no discussion
- Have evaluations submitted 2 weeks to Meredith Garmon from today

Tree Removal

- A few trees are at risk of falling on the church's property and pose a risk to the building & safety
- 3 bids are available
 - \$5400
 - Grounds budget only has \$125
 - Building is over budget by \$6000
- What is the policy for this situation?
- Grounds budget for next year; can probably be done ASAP after the annual meeting
 - \$2500 budgeted for next year
- We have the cash to do this and we have quotes according to policy. No Board action required, the administration has the go-ahead
- We may need to discuss other grounds projects that may involve large expenses such as tree removal in the future.

Annual Meeting Prep

- Kevin & Bill Brach worked on a script; a few things have been assigned
- Crystal was asked to monitor Zoom chat and handle voting via Zoom
- LeeAnn was asked to introduce MSC and Board nominees
 - Elaine Imlau has come forward for the Board 1-year term; will be handled at the annual meeting
- Membership count
 - 275
 - 245 meet all criteria
 - If 30 pledging members do not make a financial contribution, they will be at risk of losing membership. They are considered for the current year as a member (from July 1, 2023–July 1, 2024). They can make a payment when they show up at the annual meeting.
 - The quorum would need to be 41
 - Tracy will reach out to the 30 outliers and request a payment ahead of the annual meeting.
- Natalie will present & move on the amendments. Bill will moderate discussion.
- Checking in members of good standing: Tracy, Kathryn, LeeAnn, Natalie
 - Checking folks of precarious standing: Jeremy
 - Highlight name of individual checking in, not the pledging “unit”
- President’s Report — Send Kevin feedback!

UU Recognition

- Crystal to come in on Saturday to create a bulletin board of appreciation

Other New Business

- Crystal requested a check-in from the MSC at the June Board meeting, ensuring they have momentum. Will be mostly be guided by UUA. Set expectation to be checking in with the Board at every meeting.
- Discuss ad-hoc committee based on conversation with Rev. Sharon Dittmar at next meeting

Announcements

Annual Meeting: Sunday, June 2

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 18 at 6:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM by Kevin Boeckholdt.
Submitted by Kathryn Sutton, Secretary