

BUF Board of Trustees Meeting (virtual, via Zoom)

April 16, 2020

Attendees: Rory McLeod (President), Murray Bennett (Vice President), Melissa Swift (Secretary), Sky Hedman (Treasurer), Angie Lindquist, Rod Haynes, David Curley, Bharti Kirchner, Debbie Boots, Paul Beckel (Ex-Officio)

Other participants: Genia Allen-Schmid, Barbara Gilday, Kathy Wahto

Minutes by Melissa Swift, Secretary.

Meeting began at 7:00 pm

Approval of last meeting minutes. Minutes from 4/9/20 meeting were approved by email on 4/14/20.

Nominating Committee Report. Barbara Gilday

John Stewart - agreed to volunteer for the Board and continue on the Financial Oversight Committee as well.

Sarah Pearson - agree to volunteer for the Board

Still waiting to hear back from several others.

Checkins

Thank You's. Rod.

E-card was sent to Jeff Copeland, and was well received.

Sky suggests that we thank Noreen Fujita-Sacco next, for facilitating the milestones on Zoom every Sunday.

Treasurer's Report: Sky. Q&A.

We are in fine shape (full March report next week).

Sky, Kathy, Paul are meeting tomorrow to revisit this year's budget.

Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) met last night, and discussed upcoming budget.

FOC made a recommendation that we budget conservatively, assuming various stages of shutdown through December, then have a more normal budget for Jan - June 2021 but with the understanding that it will take time to get back to 'normal' (with rental income, etc). Also recommended an extra Congregational Meeting in October, to revisit budget decisions.

Stewardship Report. Debbie.

Rick's update was published in Mid-Week Update.

We are up to 69% of pledges received (comparable to last year).

Ministry Council report. Paul.

Virtual services are improving. More behind-the-scenes helpers each Sunday. Getting positive comments about audio.

Good support from Celebrant team, glad it got started before pandemic. They meet weekly. Milestones happening weekly, attendance up to about 20 people. Sunday attendance averaging around 120-140 Zoom connections. Some have more than one person in attendance.

Pastoral Care team has met a couple of times this month
Healthy Relations team has met (will lead a service soon)
Music is going really well. Apparently choir practice (virtual) is going ok and people are having fun. Have been able to find musicians for services.

Important to be training more people to fulfill necessary 'virtual host' roles.

Looking forward to having all of this become normal and 'known'....hope to keep some of the virtual offerings (for accessibility) even after it is not forced upon us.

Discussion of budget & congregational meeting logistics/timeline

Voting through online Google form. Some won't have internet access, need option to vote by phone (designated person to take their vote).

How to determine quorum during zoom meeting? Poll?

Breakout groups for discussion, during meeting?

IT Team suggestion is to do a practice Zoom meeting, with presentations about budget.

Board needs to decide on a process for who gets to speak and how that works.

Yes, Board agrees that we should budget conservatively, per FOC recommendations.

Board always has the power to decide on mid-year extra Congregational Meeting, timing needs to be flexible....but October is probably good. Leave exact date to next Board.

When will votes need to be returned? Probably same day as meeting (short window of 2 hours?)

Bylaws say no absentee voting, so people must be present for deliberations in order to be able to vote.

Can amendments be made from the floor during the meeting? Difficult to discuss any significant amendment. Good reason for preliminary zoom budget meetings.

Maybe we should say that substantial amendments need to be proposed ahead of the meeting, so we can just do yes/no vote on them during the meeting.

We will need to advertise our proposed rules/process for the meeting ahead of time also.

Next Meeting Date: April 23rd, 7pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Summary of Action Items:

- Follow up on canvass data management (Debbie) - completed 4/17/20
- Update building signage, saying we are temporarily meeting online (buf.org) (Debbie)