

OPERATIONS COUNCIL MINUTES FINAL

Tuesday, December 15, 2020
Via Zoom online

Attending via Zoom: Susan Bartlett, Laurel Farnsworth, Jud Leonard, Karen Bottar, Sharon Sisskind, Eric Haas, Chris Krebs (BOT), Erin Splaine, Linda Ross (asst clerk);

Called to order 7:05 p.m.

Invocation/Chalice Lighting/Reading - Sharon

Covenant

As we, the members of this Council and staff, gather to serve this congregation in leadership, we commit to ourselves and to each other: to be present and prepared for the work of this meeting; to listen well and contribute respectfully; to balance both our short and long-term visions with fiscal responsibility; to support the decisions of the Council; to uphold the democratic process; and to lead with goodwill and faith in the work we can accomplish together.

Approvals:

- Prior to meeting – Susan had sent an email requesting a special collection in January for Sanctuary Boston. Five voted yes, motion approved .
- November minutes - Jud moved to approve the minutes; Laurel seconded the motion, unanimous approval, motion passed.

Staff Update

Erin – for Amanda – RE going well.

- The first cut of the pageant movie is adorable.
- She made the decision not to hold any in-person events at FUUSN, and sent out this information to the congregation by email.
- There will be two services this coming Sunday, morning and evening (Solstice service)
- Bob Feldman is one of our chimers; he would like to go in on Christmas Eve and chime for about 20 minutes. Eric or Laurel will let him in and will stay through the chiming.
- Rosemary Dean is employed with FUUSN until end of June, but she and her boyfriend have moved to Lancaster PA.

Report on November BOT Meeting – Sharon

- Discussion of people who should be appreciated – Laurel, Eric, Greg Sullivan
- Discussion of upcoming activities
- Brief discussion of membership outreach
- Long discussion of racial justice ministry and how to move forward. They will be inviting members of the RJM to the next Board meeting to discuss how to support them

Financial

- Review November expenditures – Karen
 - Still in good shape as far as income
 - Plate collection app is being utilized. Collections were \$1,140 for November, \$1,400 for December to date.
 - Tenants are up to date on rent
 - Holiday trees – all sold, as of last Monday \$11,870 income. Net \$4300 (per Eric).

- Winter fundraiser – nothing to report.
- Year to date \$151,000 deficit; still in good shape.
- Susan asked about sending out a financial report to the congregation; Karen will get one ready to go before the New Year.
- Update: buying medical debt – Laurel – has not had time to look into this further.

Update: Committee activities

- Holiday Fair – Laurel
 - \$6,000 income from the fair
- Holiday trees – Eric
 - \$4300 income
 - Everyone glad they did it
- Social Action fundraising – Eric
 - Spoke to Peter Smith, who wasn't aware of any social action fundraising activities
- GA delegates – schedule – Jud
 - GA will be virtual again this year
 - Registration is already open
 - In past years, an announcement and request for delegates has been sent out in January
 - Jud thought we should do the same this year
 - The list of delegates will eventually need to be approved by the Board
- Updates: RJM and Allen window
 - A meeting will be held in early January about the Allen window
 - The Pledge to end Racism training will begin in February.
 - 20 people total; 2 slots for each leadership group and 10 for the larger congregation.
 - FUUSN dates for training will be on Saturdays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 - Feb. 6, 13, 20
 - March 6, 13, 20
- Annual budget drive – will be discussed at the Steering Committee meeting this week
- Other possible fundraisers
 - Susan spoke to Pat Rohan about the services auction– he said he would try to do something if we needed the money. It could not be a social event. It does not seem as though it is necessary, especially since a number of services purchased at last year's event are still outstanding.
 - Pat Rohan said that this will be his last year as chair of Membership.
- Tech help desk - Jud
 - Kesney Fontes raised the question about having a FUUSN tech help desk
 - Jud had contacted some people whom he thought would be helpful; they had a Zoom meeting last Sunday.
 - Kesney will structure the group

Thank yous – Laurel and Eric were thanked at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 p.m.