

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY IN NEWTON

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

December 9, 2014

Present: Alison Costello, Gregg DiBiaso, Cathy Morocco, Jonathan Reuman, Jacki Rohan, Lesley Sneddon, Bobbie Sproat, Becca Lozinsky

Staff: Erin Splaine, Rowan Van Ness

Absent: Meghan Cefalu

Member of Operations Council: Laurel Farnsworth

Annual Budget Drive Co-Chairs: David Morocco, Linda Rinearson, Urban Larson

Clerk: Ruth Comstock

Invocation/ Chalice Lighting/Introductions/Check-ins/votes

Leslie Sneddon led the covenant reading and Erin Splaine provided the inspirational reading.

Motion to approve application for membership from Daphne Blount who has attended FUSN for 25 years.

- Unanimous vote in favor of accepting Daphne into membership.

Annual Budget Drive Presentation.

- The Annual Budget Drive Co-chairs presented the plan for the 2014-2015 budget drive.

Acting Director of Lifetime Religious Education Update

Rowan discussed the programs and activities underway:

- Sunday School projects include Justice Sunday with a discussion of serving our country, the Holiday Pageant preparation, and the inclusion of the Comparative Religions Curriculum in the 7th grade instead of Coming of Age.

-The Youth Circle is discussing the Youth Group.

- There will be another FUSN Family Fun Day in January.

- The RE Council continues to discuss a mission statement which it will present to the Board at a later date.

It is also reading Welcoming Children with Special Needs by Sally Patton in preparation for its discussion of increasing the welcoming role for people with special needs into our congregation.

The RE Council is also discussing adding more music to the RE curriculum.

Minister's Update

The minister discussed the following: The Holiday Fair was a success

- There will be a Fellowship dinner in May.

Financial Oversight Committee Update

The Financial Oversight Committee met on 12/8/2014. Jacki Rohan reports that FUSN's financial systems are in generally excellent condition. Our accountant/bookkeeper Nancy Tobias is retiring and the FOC is discussing having a person from outside of the congregation fill this role in order have a more objective opinion. She will bring a motion to the next meeting to add this position to FUSN policy 2010-10 which prohibits hiring from within the congregation. Current members of this committee attending the 12/8/2014 meeting were Dede Vittori, Dan Brody, and Jacki Rohan. Past and present FUSN treasurers Alan Cody and Judy Curby were also present.

Leadership Development Committee

Cathy Morocco reported that this committee will report in January.

Board Projects

- **Next Steps Report** is to be discussed at the next meeting and then shared with the Operations Council.

- **Communications Revamp**- no update

- **FUSN goals and "slogan"**- no update

- **Conflict Resolution Group**- Jonathan Reuman reported that it is ready to move ahead when Erin is ready to send message to congregation and recruit "conflict consultants" to be used in a model similar to the Lay Ministers model. .

Closing

A motion to adjourn to Executive Session was made and unanimously approved at 8:25.

The Executive Session was called to consult with the minister regarding a personnel issue.

A motion to adjourn the Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting was made and unanimously approved at 9:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Comstock, Clerk