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**Unitarian Universalists of Southern Delaware**

**Board of Trustees April 24, 2024 Business Meeting**

In Attendance- (in person)- Paul Barnette, Carol Huckabee, Beth Law, Linda Marsden, Richard Wheeler, Kent Sprunger, Jane Miller, Rev. Heather Rion Starr, Guests- Pam Everett, Sue Brown, Alleane Taylor, Marj Shannon, Gary Schmidt

Guests via Zoom- Donna Davis, Ellen Lytton

Chalice Lighting

1. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by Paul Barnette at 3:08 PM.
2. Approve Agenda- A motion to approve the draft agenda was made by Jane Miller, and seconded by Linda Marsden.
3. Items for Action:
   1. Review/Approve April 9 Planning Meeting Minutes- Several minor changes were made to the draft April 9th, 2024 minutes. Jane Miller will send a revised copy of the minutes to the Communications Committee for posting on the website. A motion was made to approve the draft minutes, as amended, by Beth Law and seconded by Carol Huckabee. The board voted unanimously to approve the revised minutes.

B .Review/Approve Revised Resolution of Conscience – Paul Barnette asked for a vote on the revised Resolution of Conscience. The board vote was unanimous to approve as a motion. It will be presented at the annual meeting.

1. Items for Discussion:
   1. Affirmation of SFTF Task Force’s 5 Year Plan – Board members and Rev. Heather received a 42 page copy of the draft Searching for The Future (SFTF) strategic plan. Marj Shannon asked for both questions from the board and approval for affirmation of the plan at the annual meeting on June 9th, 2024. It was requested that a list of acronyms be added to the definitions page of the guide. Someone from the SFTF taskforce will be present at the June 2nd, 2024 information meeting to answer any questions that members may have. It is noted that once affirmed, the document will be used as a living document by committees. It will be located on the UUSD Docs drive. Paul will formally thank the SFTF taskforce at the annual meeting. . The Board vote was unanimous to add the affirmation of the Strategic 5-year Plan to the agenda for Annual Meeting on June 9.

Question- How does something get affirmed? It will be researched by reviewing old documents that contained affirmations.

* 1. UUSD Bylaws Name Change Resolution – The board vote was unanimous to approve the motion for the Bylaws Name Change resolution, to be voted on by the congregation on June 9th. Mac Goekler will provide the update to the bylaws.
  2. Results of Article II Poll sent to UUSD members and friends – Gary Schmidt presented the results of the recently completed UUA Article II revision poll. There were 68 respondents with results as follows : 54% agree, 31% disagree, 15% neither agree nor disagree. 79% of respondents sufficiently understand the proposed Article II revision and 15% do not. The UUA Article II revision will be voted on at the June 2024 General Assembly.
  3. Preparation for Annual Meeting –
     1. President’s letter to the congregation, annual meeting agenda, in-person and absentee ballots are being prepared for review. Julie Keefer will conduct a hymn sing and there will be a “Year in Review” by Rev. Heather while ballots are being counted.
     2. Ballots will be in two parts- those running for BOT and LDC, and motions. This will make it faster to count votes. UPDATE since meeting- there will be one ballot consisting of both BOT/LDC candidates and motions/affirmation.
  4. Discussion of FY25 Phase II Budget – Richard Wheeler discussed adjustments made to the draft FY 25 budget. Committee chairs were asked for any possible downward adjustments to their final budget. Also discussed was the “Other Donation” budget line (non-pledging identifiable) increase based on FY 24 actuals. The board reviewed the FY 24 actuals versus the FY 25 budget. Jane Miller will ask Betty Kirk, AFE, if her projection of $1960 is still accurate for the committee. The FY 25 budget will be presented to the congregation as a motion of NTE deficit of -$7928.

1. The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 PM.

Executive Session

Next Board Planning Meeting, May 14, 2024 (In-Person/Zoom)