

UNITY CHURCH OF ALBANY
Minutes of the Board of Trustees' Meeting
December 17, 2020

Participating in Board Meeting (via Zoom call, 4:30 PM EST): Heather Diddel, president; Dottie Frament, vice president; Karin Reinhold, treasurer; Patricia Wood, secretary; Peggy Kaufmann, trustee; Dave Ferrill, trustee; Carol Morris, alternate trustee; Rev. Steve Colladay, interim senior minister

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm.
2. **Proposed Agenda:** The agenda was approved.
3. **President's Report:** Heather recognized the challenges with the pandemic in 2020 and the strong desire for congregants to again meet in person for services. She commended the Board and volunteers doing sacred service during this period, for continuing to help with spiritual growth among church members.
4. **Transition Timeline:** Peggy and Dave had finalized the Unity Worldwide Senior Minister informational packet and it was submitted to Unity Worldwide. The Finance Committee recommended a salary range starting at \$55,000. The Unity in Albany Senior Minister position could now be promoted within the Unity communication channels. The church's annual report was due to Unity Worldwide in February.
5. **Finance Report:** Karin shared PowerPoint slides on the church finances. Expenses remained stable, but love donations were down for the third straight month. The Board agreed that it was time to more broadly report this issue to the congregation, to raise awareness of the deficit and the need for donations. Giving Tuesday generated \$3886 in donations to Unity in Albany. It was suggested that the Finance Committee provide the Board with recommendations regarding a schedule of fundraising initiatives for 2021. Karin reported that she and Heather would appoint members to serve on an Audit Committee and in the months to come, work with an outside accountant to perform an audit.
6. **Nominating Committee:** Dottie reported that there were now four members of the committee: Dottie, Cathy Lewis, Lois Crommelin (alternate) and Reverend Steve. Three positions will be open, and at present, there are four prospective nominees. Cheri Warren is investigating online voting options.
7. **Agree to Disagree Policy:** A motion to adopt the principles of the Agree to Disagree Policy for Board operations was made, and seconded. The motion was approved, subject to some re-working of the current wording. The Board will follow these principles for six months or so to assess their impact. If deemed successful, the Policy

will be rolled out for other Unity Albany ministry groups and for the congregation. The Agree to Disagree Policy working group is comprised of Peggy, Dave, Heather and Carol.

8. **Spiritual Study Groups:** It was suggested that the Board members commit to participating in a self-study group using Eric Butterworth's "Spiritual Economics." This group will begin on January 6th at 7 pm. All board members indicated that they would participate in the group and will meet on Wednesday evenings (even if some SpiritGroups decide to meet at other times).
9. **Adjournment of Business Meeting:** A motion was made, and seconded, to conclude the business portion of the Board meeting and enter Executive Session. Motion approved. The Executive Session commenced at 5:40 pm.
10. **Adjournment of Executive Session:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Wood, secretary, Board of Trustees