

Birmingham Unitarian Church  
Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
February 28, 2022

**Present:** Rev. Mandy Beal, Mary Gawel-Ensroth, Donna Larkin Mohr, Julia Pulver, Joanne Schouten, Cheryl Shettel, Amy Smalley, Diane Slon, Craig Stroup, Paul Vachon

In response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic crisis, this board meeting was held virtually on the Zoom internet platform.

The meeting was called to order by Donna at 7:00 PM. Mary read the Board Covenant. Rev. Mandy led the chalice lighting and check-in.

### **Minutes**

- Paul moved that the minutes of the January 24, 2022 board meeting be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Monthly Reports**

1. Treasurer's Report – Diane
  - a. Diane presented the Treasurer's Report (documents attached).
  - b. There was a questions about the negative variance for Facility and Office expenses. The variance was probably due to the cost of snow removal.
  - c. Each of the endowment funds have lost 11 to 12 percent of their value this year due to fluctuations in the stock market.
  - d. Craig moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.
  - e. Because the budget is still in a draft phase, there would be no discussion of the budget.
  - f. Diane asked for guidance setting an additional fundraising goal amount to supplement the Rummage and Auction events. Board members suggested \$10,000 to \$15,000 would be a realistic target. A chairperson for the Revenue Committee is still needed.
2. Minister-Executive's Report – Rev. Mandy
  - a. Rev. Mandy presented an oral report. The written report was submitted after the meeting (document attached).

## **Unfinished Business**

1. Progress on Open Questions – Craig
  - a. Kimery Campbell is working with Craig and Paul on developing the open questions.
  - b. The goal is to finalize a draft of the set of questions by the end of March to be presented initially to a pilot group of congregants.
2. Revenue Chair Update – Donna
  - a. Finding a chair is still in process and has not been finalized.

## **New Business**

1. Budget and Finance Committee Vacancy
  - a. Diane moved that Keith Ensroth be approved to fill the vacancy on the Budget and Finance Committee.
  - b. The motion passed by a vote of seven in favor with Mary abstaining.
2. Reopening Task Force – Donna
  - a. The church will be open to members and friends for meetings effective March 1, 2022.
  - b. In a broadcast email, Rev. Mandy announced that the sanctuary will reopen for worship on March 20, 2022. Masks will continue to be required.
3. Annual Meeting Date – Donna
  - a. Craig moved that the Annual Meeting be held on May 22, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. The meeting will take place virtually on the Zoom platform. Since the service that morning will be multiplatform (in person and on Zoom), it was proposed that the Annual Meeting begin at 1:30 PM to allow congregants who choose to attend the service in person enough time to go home and log on to Zoom for the meeting.
  - c. To encourage attendance at the Annual Meeting, it was suggested that congregants attending in person be given a copy of the Annual Meeting agenda and cookies as they were leaving the service.

## **Issues Arising for the Good of the Church**

- Voting on the Eighth Principle will take place at the Annual Meeting.

Craig moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Gawel-Ensroth, Secretary