

UCC Annual Meeting Minutes: May 21, 2017

President Lynne Weidel called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm in the Sanctuary, after the Church Service and Social Hour.

Reverend Audette Fulbright conducted a Chalice Lighting and an Annual Meeting Blessing. President Lynne Weidel opened the meeting with a group recitation of our Covenant.

QUORUM COUNT: Since the meeting has numerous items the Congregation needed to vote on, the first order of business was to count voting members present to assure a Quorum. A quorum for the purposes of this meeting was a minimum of 29 members in attendance.

All members present stood and there was a count, each person calling the next chronological number, and then sitting back down. The count of voting members present was 56, well past the Quorum required.

VOTE: 2016 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES:

Karla Moore moved to accept the Minutes from last year's business meeting, May 22, 2016. This was seconded by Hailey Ellingham. No discussion was needed, and the Motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: CHANGE IN COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY TERMS IN OFFICE:

President Lynne Weidel brought forward the suggestion from the Board of Directors regarding COSM terms in office. This issue required a congregational vote as it involved a By-Law change. Currently the term for COSM members is 2 years, to be terminated at the end of two years. Lynne suggested that we expand this to include 3 consecutive 2-year terms, with a maximum of 6 consecutive years on the COSM team. This is needed because of the heavy responsibilities of the COSM, as well as a need for consistency and continuity for effectively addressing COSM work. Gail Roberts moved to adopt this change to the By-Laws, Camellia El-Antably seconded the Motion, and this change was unanimously voted in.

VOTE: 2017-2018 ELECTED OFFICERS SLATE:

BOARD:

Board nominees serving terms in the coming year, both existing and new were asked to come to the front of the room. The slate was as follows:

- President: Camellia El-Antably
- Vice President: Hailey Ellingham
- Treasurer: Paul Howard
- Secretary: Natalie Vernon
- At Large: Garth Shanklin, Sleeter Dover, Audri Mata
- Past President Lynne Weidel

Patti Ridley moved to accept the Slate as presented. Jim Gaulke seconded this motion. After discussion, the vote was taken, and all were in favor.

VOTE: COMMITTEE ON SHARED MINISTRY: 2-6 YEAR TERM/NEW MEMBERS

- Birgitt Paul
- Jack Runnels
- Elaine Hayes
- Norm Bretz

Beth Howard moved to accept the Slate for new members of COSM as presented. This was seconded by Camellia El-Antably and voted on unanimously to accept.

VOTE: INVESTMENT TEAM:

The Investment Team consists of Bitsy Heckert, Emily Smith, and Phil Stump. Matthew Waterman has been nominated to take Phil Stump's place, as he is leaving the committee. Karla Moore moves to accept this Slate. There is discussion that when Bitsy moves to Texas she will need to be replaced on the Committee. Beth Howard seconds this motion and it is passed unanimously.

LIVING GENEROUSLY UPDATE:

Camellia El-Antably thanked the Living Generously team for their hard, creative, and effective work this year: Camellia, Elizabeth and Tim Thorson, Mike Shonsey, and Mark Vinich.

- Pledges are up 3K from last year yielding \$147,628.90 in Pledges.
- 43 Pledging Units raised their Pledges this year
- 14 new Pledging Units
- 10 Pledging Units lost
- Goal is to have every one of our pledging members to pledge (89).
- Financial Pledge is a requirement of membership, even if it is small.

PAUL HOWARD PRESENTED THE 2017-2018 UCC BUDGET:

Paul thanked the Finance Committee (Steve Furtney, Mike Shonsey, Joey VanShaik, Marcy Linde, Phil Stump (investment)). Paul explained and answered questions the Budget provided in the Annual Meeting Packet sent out to all members.

- Church runs at a deficit and has been using 40K from Reserves and Major gifts to operate.
- Current budget is lower due to new Minister beginning August 1, and current minister ending her service June 30.
- Request for Congregation members to pay budget and Service Auction obligations
- Great success of Service Auction, Winter Mart and Lighting Upgrades.
- Austere budget means no raises for Staff, though anyone below the midpoint of the compensation metric will be moved up to midpoint.
- Need a separate Fundraising Committee
- Need a separate Advertising Committee

Mike Shonsey moved to accept the 2017-2018 Budget as presented by Paul. Tom Dodson seconds this Motion, and the Budget is unanimously accepted.

LEGACY MATCHING FUNDS OPPORTUNITY:

Mike Shonsey presented a program available to UUCC through Shelter Rock Capital Advisors. This group has set aside 5 million to donate when individuals make provisions in their Wills to go towards their churches. Shelter Rock will write a check for 10% of what is bequeathed to the Church, available in 2018. The minimum legacy is \$10,000, the maximum is \$100,000.00.

Documentation of the legacy gift is required, but demise of the donator is not. Time sensitivity is that these matching funds are only available until the 5 million allotted to this fund runs out.

SANCTUARY CHURCH VOTE:

Sandi Gaulke presented the status report of the work done by her team towards supporting a vote by the Congregation to become a Sanctuary Church. This team consists of Gail Roberts, Sleeter and Cathy Dover, and Jim and Sandi Gaulke.

Sleeter Dover read the Resolution, which served as a Motion, to become a Sanctuary church. Beth Howard seconded this Motion, and a discussion was held.

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Vernon, Board Secretary.

May 21, 2017

1:00 pm (second half of the Congregational meeting.)

The vote to become a sanctuary church was made by paper ballots, including absentee ballots. While ballots were counted, Lynne Weidel read the many accomplishments and services that had been offered to the church over the past year.

The count was pronounced: The sanctuary motion did not pass. There were: 56 'yes' votes and nine 'no' votes for a total of 65 total votes.

It did not pass because it was stated prior to the vote and in the materials provided to the congregation that the board had decided that this motion required yes votes from 50% +1 of the membership to pass. 56 yes votes was less than needed to pass.

Lea Grubbs made a motion that the congregation vote again in six weeks to reconsider becoming a sanctuary. Discussion ensued about this possibility. Several people spoke for both sides of the motion.

Garth Shanklin advised the congregation that the motion was out of order with the bylaws. The correct way to call a special meeting, in accordance with the church by-laws, is by a petition signed by at least 25% of membership which is then delivered to the Board. The board will then arrange a special meeting.

The motion was withdrawn, and Lea stated that a written request would be submitted to the church board after signatures from 25% of the congregation collected.

This portion of the minutes is respectfully submitted by Hailey Ellingham, board member at large.