

Unitarian Society of Germantown

(CORRECTED) Board of Trustees Meeting, October 27, 2015

Board members present: Tom Ott, Bill Morrow, Bob Williford, Craig Miller, Margaret Kinnevy, Ann Schoonmaker.

Board members absent: Scott Wolkenberg, Susan Smith, Linda Brunn.

Others present: Rev. Kent Matthies, Rev. Daniel Gregoire, Gloria Smith, Carolyn Cotton, Jessica Slivak, John Pron, and Ellen Pannell of Brawer & Hauptman, Architects.

The meeting was convened by President Tom Ott at 7:36 pm.

President's Report: Tom Ott

Preliminary work on the 150th Anniversary Capital Campaign proceeds with the lead committee members (Craig Miller, Jenn Leiby, Linda Bernstein, and Tom Ott) planning to contact potentially big givers for their support, then to approach the rest of the congregation.

Minister's MET Report: Rev. Kent Matthies

Kent and Daniel Gregoire are working with the Safe Congregation Team, the UUA, the Committee on Ministry, and church attorney David Dearden regarding investigations of some adult mismanagement at past "youth cons".

Daniel's contract must be adjusted to his new status as assistant minister. The Affordable Care Act also requires more health coverage. Working with Kent on this contract are Andrea Parry, Patricia Hamill, and Betsy Gabriel, UUA Consultant.

Brawer and Hauptman Presentation re: Elevator

Carolyn Cotton introduced Ellen Pannell of Brawer & Hauptman, Architects, noting that an elevator is the only part of Phase 1 of the Master Plan not completed. The elevator would stop at all three levels of the building to provide independent, dignified access for everyone--members, visitors, and renters. Members Jessica Slivak and John Pron gave comments in support of the plan. It is a small but complicated project because of the design of the building. A rough estimate of costs puts the figure under \$400,000. If the board agrees to go forward, the next step would be to solicit proposals from architects and contractors, including pre-schematic design development and some materials for the capital gift campaign. More thought and discussion required.

Governance and Ministry Task Force Smart Goals

(Carried over from last month)

It was moved by Margaret Kinnevy and seconded to approve the goals as distributed last month. Motion passed 6-0.

Air Conditioning of Sanctuary

The Building and Grounds Committee requested approval to spend the \$25,000 gift from Mary Lee Keane and Sam Gugino to install air conditioning in the sanctuary. There is a possibility of an overrun of approximately \$1,145 for radiator covers.

It was moved by Bob Williford and seconded to approve the expenditure of \$26,145 for the air conditioning project. Motion passed 6-0.

Chancel Handrails

The Building and Grounds Committee has requested that the board approve the construction of handrails for the steps to the chancel for safety purposes. There is no money in the committee's budget for this expense. Two options were proposed with only a drawn approximation of the railing and two different prices. Margaret Kinnevy and Ann Schoonmaker will ask to see examples of the two proposed styles.

Evan Towle's request for congregational sponsorship before the UUA for his ministerial studies

After conversations with President Ott and Rev. Matthies which clarified that church attendance for members was aspirational, not a requirement, Mr. Towle has indicated that he will consider joining USG as a member.

It was moved by Bill Morrow and seconded that we sponsor Evan Towle before the UUA for his ministerial studies. Motion approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Ann Schoonmaker
Secretary