

UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF GERMANTOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

April 25, 2017

Present: Eva Finney, Mike Campbell, Linda Brunn, Eli Scarce, Tom Ott, Bill Morrow, Scott Wolkenberg, Joanne Holden Davis, Susan Smith

Guests: Bill Dowdall, Linda Bernstein, Barbara Dowdall, Susan Bockius, Howard Silver, Maggie Beaumont, Gale Gibbons

Staff: Gloria Guldager

March Minutes

Minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Philadelphia Cluster

The Board agreed to continue USG's support of the promotional campaign mounted by the Philly cluster of UU congregations.

Welcoming Congregation Refresher

The Board approved Barbara Dowdall's request that USG take steps to renew its status as a Welcoming Congregation. The UUA recommends a renewal process every five years, but USG has not gone through one since achieving the designated status in 1998. In particular, we have not incorporated Transgender issues into our educational process. Barbara will organize a task force to plan educational activities that will run throughout the church year and culminate with a congregational vote on renewed Welcoming status.

Stained Glass Window Proposal

Members of the Window Committee reviewed their request for an educational process and congregational ratification of the window design plan that was created. It was noted that the Board felt that the plan was very thoughtful and well-done; however, there is concern about the potential for any fundraising or for creating any expectations of moving forward while the elevator and driveway projects are underway. There is additional concern about reaching our fiscal goals given the expectation of a balanced operating budget for 2019. The Board approved a motion that the ad hoc stained glass committee's recommended concept of a pre-selected stained glass window plan for the remaining stained glass windows in the sanctuary be approved. The ad hoc committee may present its plan to the congregation for its approval or non-approval at a date to be determined by the committee and the Board, but in no event earlier than October 1, 2017. There will be no solicitation, encouragement or seeking of funds for new windows from USG or its members until 1) congregational approval has been received and 2) the Elevator Project and the Driveway Project have been completed.

Auction Results

Although final figures are not yet available, it appears that proceeds will be less than in years past. MET and the Auction Committee will review attendance and other factors to see what modifications might be helpful.

2017-2018 Budget

After careful review and discussion, the Board unanimously accepted the draft 2018 budget prepared by the MET.