

UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF GERMANTOWN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 27, 2016

Present: Linda Brunn, Tom Ott, Eli Searce, Susan Smith

Guests: Kent Matthies, Connie Simon

Security Update

Kent reported that the team met in person two weeks ago to begin crafting short and long-term goals. The focus will include non-Sunday and evening hours as well as Sunday mornings, with emphasis on what can be achieved quickly. We are looking to develop a higher intentionality among church leaders about who's on site and for what purpose. Jeff Baird, head of facilities and security at Philadelphia University, has consulted with us and indicates that we are in "good shape" given our resources. Related to security, there is a desire to designate USG a "No Firearms Zone"; Tom will contact Andrea Parry re: drafting a policy.

President's Report

Due to the light attendance, discussion re: the Contractor Policy and meeting dates for November and December, 2017 will be deferred until January. Tom reported that the Capital Campaign is doing well with pledges amounting to \$333K toward the goal of \$350K. The Board had approved up to \$50K for the driveway, but it now appears that \$40K estimate covered only the re-paving costs and did not include widening the driveway and work on the retaining walls. Bill Dowdall and Bill Blasdel will work on revised estimates to be presented for a resolution at the January Board meeting.

Board Review

Linda has suggested that the Board complete a self evaluation process that would focus on refining/defining the Board's role as the new governance structure evolves. As the Board changes its role, question might include: What are our goals? How can we improve our functioning? What Board skills do we need? What is it that we need to evaluate? Do we need outside expertise or leadership to complete such an evaluation? Linda stressed the responsibility of Board members as individuals, not just a group to communicate out to the organization. Linda, Susan, Eli and Eva are asked to form a sub-committee to come up with a direction statement on what we should evaluate.

Budget Meeting

There was disappointment in the turnout for the meeting earlier this month, since the small number of attendees were folks who are already familiar with the budget. A second meeting will be held on January 8th, and it was suggested that child care be provided. Scott's presentation was very well received.

President for 2017-2018

The meeting continued in executive session to discuss filling the President's position in 2017-2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan B Smith