

UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF GERMANTOWN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 27, 2017

Present: Eva Finney, Mike Campbell, Linda Brunn, Eli Searce, Tom Ott, Bill Morrow, Scott Wolkenberg, Joanne Holden Davis, Susan Smith **Guest:** Bill Dowdall **Staff:** Gloria Guldager

January Minutes Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

President's Report

Tom and Connie Simon will be sending a notice in response to the recent desecration of Jewish cemeteries and threats to Jewish community centers.

During Kent's leave, MET representatives will attend the monthly Board meeting on a rotating basis.

MET Representatives

Delores Hill and Kay Weiser have agreed to serve on MET next year. A third member is still being sought. The names of additional candidates were approved and will be approached to assess their interest.

Treasurer

Mark Bernstein has agreed to serve as USG Treasurer. Under the new plan, the Finance Committee will be discontinued and the Treasurer position will become more robust with oversight of the CIF and the Operating Budget. Mark's appointment was approved for the period March 2017 through September 2018.

Government and Ministry Task Force The Board approved making the GMTF a continuing committee.

Firearm Policy

The proposed firearm policy was discussed at length, and the following revised wording was approved by the Board:

"The Unitarian Society of Germantown respects the rights of individuals to possess and carry firearms consistent with the prevailing state and federal laws.

The Unitarian Society of Germantown also believes that the best way to ensure a safe environment on its private property is to prohibit any person on the property from possessing firearms. Therefore, no one shall possess a firearm on USG property except for uniformed or identified law enforcement officers.

The Unitarian Society of Germantown may report any violation of this policy to the civil authorities, if warranted."

Tom will share this version of the policy with Security Committee and church counsel Dave Dearden.

Capital Campaign Follow Up

A task force will be formed to recommend the best way to finance the elevator project in advance of receiving total pledges. Several candidates were identified. Tom will speak with Mark Bernstein and Rudy Sprinkle and will ask them to get back to us with names of committee members.

Board Self Evaluation

Linda reviewed the proposed self evaluation which she described as reviewing what we've done, what we said we'd do, what we learned, how the new governance system is working, and closure for our year. Given that the three incoming Board members have been part of USG leadership, it was noted that this could serve as part of the annual Board orientation. It was agreed that we would meet for about two hours following the Annual Meeting on May 21st and that incoming Board members and Nominating Committee members would be invited to participate.