

**May 24, 2017 – All Souls Church Board of Trustees
Minutes of Meeting**

Called to order at 7:00 pm by President Chuck Dulaney.

PRESENT:

Rev. Rob Hardies, Senior Minister
Rev. Susan Newman Moore, Associate Minister
Katie Loughary, Executive Director
Chuck Dulaney, President
Anne Bradley, Vice President
Russell Cross, Vice President
Ken Ambrose, Trustee
Peg Barrett, Trustee
Tim Rhodes, Trustee
Tracy Zorpette, Trustee
Elizabeth Ashwell, Assistant Secretary
Jennifer Bruneau, Membership Secretary (effective 6/1/2017)
Cledwyn Jones, Moderator
John Strongman, Treasurer
Mary Swanson, Secretary
Andrew Scott, Investment Committee Chairman

NOT PRESENT:

Patricia Lambert, Trustee
Georgia Yuan, Trustee

Chalice lighting and reading by Rev. Rob followed by introductions.

PROCEEDINGS:

1. The agenda was unanimously approved.
2. The Consent Agenda, comprising the following items, was unanimously approved:

Agenda item 2(a) – approval of April 26, 2017, minutes of the BOT;

Agenda item 2(b) – approval of eight additional delegates to the General Assembly, as requested in message (undated) from Justis Tuia, Denominational Connections Committee, and Rev. Rob to the BOT;

Agenda item 2(c) – approval of \$3,450 grant to the CEN-Haiti Project from the Beckner Fund.

3. Agenda item 3 – Andrew Scott updated the board on Investment Committee activities, referencing the written Investment Committee Update dated May 24, 2017. Of key concern is whether to seek out independent financial guidance to actively or passively advise on portfolio management (especially in light of lack of continuity in committee membership and difficulties in recruiting persons with financial backgrounds), or whether to continue with the status quo, where the committee oversees a blend of passively invested funds in Vanguard index funds and actively managed TIFF and UUCEF funds. The committee intends to propose recommendations to the board later this year. Ken Ambrose requested that the committee also comment on the historical performance of socially responsible investments vs. non-restricted investments in its next report.
4. Agenda item 4 – The Executive Team updated the board on administrative matters, providing its “Staff Report – May 2017.” (a) Rev. Rob intends to move forward with staffing contracts with Revs. Keithan, Parker and Braxton. For the latter two, a clause that employment is contingent upon the signing of the contract with Sustainable Futures Charter School will be included in each. (b) The part-time position of Religious Education Assistant, vacant with the unexpected resignation of Kyja Wilburn, will be filled by Maxine Hillman (who previously held the position) on an “acting” basis until a permanent replacement is found. (c) A draft administrative policy on what to do in the event of an Immigration and Customs Enforcement raid is under review with the church’s attorney. (d) Rev. Susan reported to the Executive Team an incident on Sunday, May 21, of a visitor in the pews being spotted with a holstered handgun. Although DC allows concealed handguns generally, they are not permitted in churches. Chuck Delaney requested an update after the church’s attorney has reviewed the matter so that a policy can be adopted.

Aside from the written staff report, Katie Loughary clarified that window repairs and sanctuary repainting now in progress are being funded by the Shively endowment. Rev. Susan relayed that Silver Souls has asked her for suggestions as to how it may be more supportive of social justice.

5. Agenda item 5 – Anne Bradley updated the board on the Personnel Committee’s research into staff benefits, including presentation of a “Benefits Comparison Chart.” She concluded that ASCU’s benefits are in line with those of other large UU churches, but they, like other large UU churches, do not meet UUA recommendations. It was also pointed out that ASCU provides no health insurance coverage for dependents, while other large churches are split 50% - no coverage for dependents / 50% - some coverage for dependents but less than for staff. Tracy Zorpette requested that the Executive Team supply information for the August board meeting as to what it would cost to adjust ASCU’s benefits to add dependent coverage at the UUA’s recommended level, and Katie agreed that an estimate could be provided.
6. Agenda item 6 – Rev. Rob presented an updated draft “All Souls Bicentennial Strategic Plan” (estimated 45% completed) for the board’s input. The drafting team plans to seek Cledwyn Jones’s expertise for developing baseline metrics. Andrew Scott requested that the Investment Committee be apprised of the status of the plan for endowment proceeds planning purposes. Chuck Dulaney asked the board to treat the draft as a confidential work-in-progress and to provide comments to him well in advance of June 5.

7. Agenda item 7 – Tracy and Ken provided a draft “Operational Definitions for Communications Limitations” from the Governance Committee and requested input prior to the next meeting. Cledwyn agreed to share his comments with the committee. Rev. Rob asked to receive the next draft in advance of the next meeting.
8. Agenda item 8 concerning a proposed board committee on stewardship was postponed to the June meeting. Peg pointed out that there are at least three committees devoted to how to spend funds, but none addressing the overall process of garnering funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

June 7	Board orientation training required for all trustees; optional for officers
June 14	Monthly BOT meeting (including audit report)
July 26	Social gathering at Chuck Dulaney’s home, with essential business only

Minutes submitted by Mary Swanson, Secretary