

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the New River Valley  
Congregational Meeting Notes – May 31, 2020  
Held via Zoom due to COVID-19

Quorum was established with 127 members (59% of membership) in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Steve Keighton (President of the Board) at 11:34.

Steve thanked a variety of people who have supported the work of the Board this year: Ellen Plummer for serving as Parliamentarian for this meeting; Stewardship committee; Outgoing Board members (Sandy Power, Nancy Norton and Dan Kominsky); Lisa Evanylo; Ushers for the meeting to allow people in and to monitor the chat; Arthur Snoke for maintaining the website for annual meeting; Wayne Neu, Pam Phillips and Jamie McReynolds for managing a variety of logistics; and to the congregation for patience and flexibility.

Pam thanked Steve Keighton for his leadership as Board President this year.

Logistics of meeting were reviewed – questions will be identified through chat, those who have a question will state their own questions after unmuted. Voting will be conducted by chat, which will be identified as Yes, No, Abstain

The agenda was proposed by Steve Keighton and seconded by Jim Kern. No questions were raised, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

Steve identified where material can be found on the website that are resources for the meeting, including Committee/Task Highlights from the year, the proposed budget, and brief bios of the candidates for leadership positions.

First motion was proposed by Steve Keighton. Slate of candidates for the Executive Board is Bob Stimson (president-elect), Meredith Hundley (treasurer), Brandi Lemmon (at large), Mindy and Paul Quigley sharing one spot (at large). Steve Henninger seconded the motion. No discussion or questions were raised. Slate of candidates was approved unanimously.

Second motion was proposed by Steve Keighton. Vote was on Jim Kern nominated to replace Arthur Cennamo on the Board of Trustees. Karen Holstein seconded. No discussion or questions were raised. Jim Kern was approved to serve as Trustee unanimously.

Third motion, the proposed budget for 2020-2021 was proposed by Steve Keighton. Rachel Craine seconded. Steve explained that budget is a deficit budget (~8,000), and that we are likely

to end this year (2019-2020) with a surplus, though we will not know the exact amount until the end of June. The numbers are best guesses at this point, as there are so many uncertainties in the coming year. It is noted that the board during the year can make modest adjustments up to 15% to the budget total without a new vote by members.

- Arthur Snoke noted that there is a pod cast of the informational meeting (May 17) that answers many questions people might have.
- Jamie McReynolds raised a question regarding any information of amount of money that has been donated from members after request to consider donating stimulus checks. Lisa reported that \$14,500 has been gratefully received.
- Denise Mathews asked if Kroger cards need to be re-enlisted each year, which they do not.
- Darla Bray asked if board discussed what might be cut first. Steve responded that the board does not have a plan for that. Dan Kominsky clarified that we do have reserves to manage a small shortfall. Reserves are held in a Vanguard account and hold \$87,000.
- Seth asked if we should consider planning to remain in arrears this year. Steve clarified as long as we have enough in reserves we can use that to cover expenses if the income does not match (given it is a modest short coming)
- Bill Baker asked if the treasurer could approach our bank and request a new interest amount for the mortgage, given current interest rates. That has not been considered, but certainly can be done.
- Mindy Quigley asked about child care providers amount, which is the same as last year. With building closed, we are not using child care. Because we do not know when we will open, some items have been maintained in the budget at the same rate as last year. Board recognizes that the flexibility in when some of these costs will be needed again will provide some flexibility in the budget.
- Kimberley Homer asked where our investments are currently. Is there shifting that can be done to minimize the risk we are taking? Are there areas of investment that we want to focus on that are consistent with our values? Finance committee and Board will check on these details.
- Amount of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) federal loan: amount is \$34,800.

Steve decided to forgo the vote on the call to question motion after seeing no objection to ending discussion.

The vote on the original motion to pass the budget was held with vote 99% yes. (1 abstain).

James Bohland moved to adjourn, Nancy Bodenhorn seconded. Vote to adjourn unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:24.

Meeting minutes submitted by Nancy Bodenhorn, Secretary.