

MINUTES: MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF WESTSIDE UNITARIAN

UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

February 3, 2021

BOARD ATTENDING: (Virtual meeting through Zoom) Vanessa Shaughnessy, marissa delgado ohoyo, Shelley Webb, Liz Berggren, Thomas Terence, Tony Ricardi, Jade Wilde

STAFF: Rev. Christopher Wulff

GUEST: Paula van Haagen

WELCOME, LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CHALICE LIGHTING: The meeting began at 6:30 pm. marissa read chalice lighting words and acknowledged our presence on the lands of the Coast Salish people.

COVENANT, CHECK IN AND ACCESS NEEDS: marissa read the board covenant. Board members and guest shared check-in and access needs.

BUDGET DISCUSSION: The board discussed various approaches to addressing the projected shortfall in the budget. These include (1) solving the shortfall in a long lasting way, including a focus on increasing pledges and making adjustments in program budgets based on membership and income; (2) adopting more short term cuts, which would provide temporary relief and require revisiting the issue again next year; and (3) doing nothing. The board took into consideration the Finance Committee's recommendation to keep at least half of the current reserves available for the following year rather than using all or most of the reserves to cover the shortfall.

Having discussed these options, the board concluded that the first option is preferable. The board will consider what guidance to provide to the stewardship committee for the upcoming pledge campaign and also what program adjustments could be made. During this process, the board is committed to maintaining transparency with the congregation.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: With the resignation of the current Nominating Committee chair, the board voted to approve Kristina Darnell as the chair for the rest of the year. The committee will invite a third member to join them.

CLOSE OF MEETING: The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.