

Unitarian Society of Ridgewood

Board of Trustees Meeting: 3/5/18

Convened at 7:00 PM

ATTENDEES: WILLIS, DURAN, LEWIS, MCMURRAY, NADLER, Krag, JOSEFSBERG, REV. DYLAN, REV. SARAH

1. Opening Words / Chalice Lighting

Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year. It is today that we fit ourselves for the greater usefulness of tomorrow. Today is the seed time, now are the hours of work, and tomorrow comes the harvest and the playtime.

--- W.E.B Dubois

2. Annual Budget Drive Update

Kudos to Rob Markovitz and Anita DeGiulio for the success of the March 11th Lead Donor event.

3. Organizational Structure Update

Several months of internal discussion have produced a draft approach for revitalizing the Society's organizational structure. The BOT revisited its work to date and confirmed its advocacy of a "more organic, less linear" model that contrasts with current hierarchical arrangements.

Discussion turned to the question of how best to involve congregational leaders and members in this work. Sally described the feedback provided by Program Council leaders. Several congregational meeting formats were considered.

The BOT endorsed Rob's suggestion that we set a Saturday morning meeting date in late March/ early April for "anyone interested" in joining us for a discussion on the topic.

4. Proposed By-Laws Change

Following some discussion, the BOT declined to vote on a By-Laws change making explicit the expectation that a “Friend” must make a financial contribution to the Society.

5. Treasurer’s Report (See Attached)

Peter described the monthly numbers as “extremely good” on both the revenue and expense sides. However, the revenue growth seems outsized and may well be the result of pre-paid pledges in response to changes in federal tax law.

He provided additional information about the Society’s increased annual obligation --- estimated at 10% ---to the UUA Program Fund. (The increase will be phased in over several years.)

6. Minister’s Report Q/A (See Attached)

The BOT endorsed Rev. Sarah’s request for professional development funds for office staff.

Laura and Rob volunteered to assist Sarah in weighing options for staffing the office.

The date of Sarah’s formal installation is stalled but certainly not stilled.

7. DFM Report (See Attached)

In light of a conflict between the June 3rd Coming of Age Ceremony and the Annual Meeting, the Annual Meeting will be held on June 10th. The BOT expects the exuberance of the Annual Meeting to further grow spirits (and possibly minds) at the Annual End of Year Picnic

8. Program Council (See Attached)

Adjournment: 9 PM

B. Josefsberg

3/19/18/17/18