

# Unity of Fox Valley Annual Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2021

Meeting called to order at 11: 27 am by President Eric Hage

Opening Prayer was given by Reverend Mike Korpan

Eric introduced the current Board Members:

Eric Hage  
Bonnie Burns (absent)  
Carl Strang  
Perry Hurtt  
Mickey Koziol  
Larry Shaeffer  
Rev. Mike Korpan

Two Board Members will be leaving: Eric Hage and Perry Hurtt at the end of 2021.

Motion for approval of 2020 Annual Minutes was made and approved.

Two potential new Board Members were introduced and highlighted by Eric Hage:

- Perry Hurtt has offered to serve a second term. He has been very involved over many years at the church and was instrumental in getting the parking lot resurfaced.
- Donna Beichel has been involved as a greeter and volunteer helping to make the church more attractive – she recently painted the mural in the back room behind the sanctuary.

Congregants were asked if there was any other volunteers interested in being on the Board. There were no other volunteers. A voice vote was taken for both Perry and Donna to be part of the board. They were both approved by voice vote.

Volunteers for Nominating Chair and Alternative for 2021 was announced. Judy DeVoe volunteered to be Nominating Chair. A search for Alternate will be taken up later.

## **The Treasurers Report**

Carl Strang presented 2021 Financial highlights. First, Carl presented the 2021 Operating Budget as of November 1<sup>st</sup>. He brought up that our financial condition is 'okay' and added that this year the church saw sizable and generous funds bequeath from Mickey Cowles and Rick Dearborn. Monthly love offerings continue not to meet expenses yet contributions such as the bequeaths mentioned creates a positive balance to date and we will not need a fundraiser. Projects such as the resurfacing of the parking lot and upgrades to the sound system were completed with contributions from members as well as a grant (for the sound system) by the Assoc. of Unity Churches.

The Reserve Fund and Endowment fund accounts have both increased slightly this year. Carl also noted again that the church no longer has to pay interest on the mortgage.

Carl highlighted the Budgets for 2022 that were approved by the Board. Carl spoke to the fundraiser that has started. This fundraiser is focused on upgrading the appeal of the sanctuary with better lighting, new carpeting and chairs.

### **Minister's Report**

Rev. Mike spoke to the congregation about 'what is our shared vision', a request for a spiritual awareness of our future from each of us. It will be the collective consciousness of who and what we want to be that will make a difference in our future. Rev. Mike asked for all of us to hold in our hearts a place for UFV and be prayerful about our future.

### **Questions and Answers**

Dawn Staszak suggested we think 'outside the box' on improving social activities – maybe a bingo or trivia night or even karaoke to bring people together post-covid restrictions.

Judy Devoe asked why the budget totals are equal – total income vs. total expenses. Eric explained the budget reflects the non-profit nature of the church.

Jenn King suggested we find a way to 'plug into' or become better connected with the local community activities or events that occur downtown or nearby. Rev. Mike highlighted an experience at Oak Park Unity with the community and how this should be a board initiative.

Judy Devoe asked whether what we do to advertise our events in the local papers. Rev. Mike highlighted that all our services and major events are sent out to the local papers. The decision to print these is the responsibility of the paper. He also announced that the Board has approved a post card mailing to the entire town of Batavia that will occur soon and that impact of the mailing will be closely monitored.

Alex Christensen complemented the Board on recent activities and thought the email with links sent out pre-Annual meeting was great. He asked if Board minutes could be sent out electronically to members to help keep them abreast of activities.

Beth Johnson asked about the fundraiser 'Lights, Camera, Action'. Eric highlighted that this fundraiser is independent of the budget and focuses on improvements to the sanctuary.

Maria Cosentino had a question on line items in the budget that were zeroes. Carl identified that this is likely an account that is not used. Eric went to the detailed printout and echoed that this was a non-used line item. Maria also commented the Board Minutes posted was from August and suggested that it should be kept updated.

Perry Hurtt asked if there is a limit to the amount in the Reserve account. Eric responded that there would not be a limit and that the monies in the account were for specific, non-operating type activities. Rev. Mike highlighted how the church handles reporting the non-profit status of the church to the government.

Judy Devoe asked if the church was going to re-open the kitchen for post-service coffee and food. Eric asked for a vocal vote on opening up for post-service. Vote was unanimous. Rev. Mike suggested we wait until Jan.1 to consider post-service hospitality.

Bobbi Severson thanked Bob and Mary Ann and the team for all the years of service providing great food and coffee.

Bobbi identified that the 2020 Annual meeting minutes had not been approved. A voice vote was taken for approval. Marie Manella made the motion, Joey Nelson seconded.

Rev. Mike offered a closing prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm Meeting notes compiled by Eric Hage.