

he Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of :  
ackgrounds and beliefs.

**WE INSPIRE** and support individual spiritual growth.

**WE CONNECT** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.

**WE ACT** in the service of peace and justice.

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES**

**APRIL 20, 2015**

Trustees present: Chuck Colletti, Tom Croarkin, Michelle Garvey, Bobbie Herman, Mary-Jane Cross, Lyn Hamilton, Steve Axthelm, Anne Khanna, Roberta Finkelstein (ex officio)

Trustees absent: Matt Peterson, Denny Davidoff, Ted Yang

Observers : Bob Welsh, Deborah Quinn

Garvey called the meeting to order at 8:04, with a quorum present. Garvey offered a centering reading.

Bob Welsh – Membership Chair – discussed the Welcome Table. Membership is actively recruiting volunteers to work it on Sunday mornings after each service. Meet and greet new people. He asked everyone on the board to help find volunteers for this project. Email Bob ([Rlw14@yahoo.com](mailto:Rlw14@yahoo.com)) to volunteer or to suggest congregants who might help.

Bob also mentioned they are looking for someone who can write and do PR for TUCW. This is part of the function of the Communications Committee, which will be starting in the fall 2015.

Deborah Quinn – Stewardship Chair - reported on pledge drive results to date: as of 4/29, \$548,000 has been pledged by 236 pledge units. The pledge units include 23 new members.

Discussion of ways to bring in as many pledges as possible included board members calling and emailing those not yet pledged, and an eblast or letter to all. Stewardship also considering reach out in May for a “fill the gap” funding from the lay leadership of the congregation.

Consent Agenda - C Colletti moved, T Croarkin seconded, passage of the Consent Agenda, including Board Chair report, Interim Minister report, Building & Grounds, report, YRSC update, March board minutes, Governance Committee report, and Senior Minister Contract (Confidential). Passed unanimously.

There were no new reports for Finance (Treasurer report) or Town Hall. There was no Executive Committee meeting in April.

GA and Metro District Delegates (Croarkin)

T Croarkin moved, L Hamilton seconded the appointment as delegates to GA, of all who signed up (MJ Cross, D Davidoff, T Yang, R Burnham, J Mason, C Colletti, D Quinn, K Kraemer, R Tartaglione, L Kaplan). Passed unanimously.

T Croarkin moved, MJ Cross seconded appointment as delegates to Metro District, of all who signed up (T Croarkin, K Kraemer, L Caplan, E Rockman-Blake, D Quinn). Passed unanimously.

Congregations. The following policies were also sent to the board for a first look, to be approved in May: Disruptive Person policy, Safe Congregation Policy. Board members are asked to send any comments on these charters and policies to Mary-Jane Cross, who will compile these and send them to the appropriate committees before the discussion and approval vote in May.

Policy Update (Garvey) – The Policy Task Force has not met in the past few months. The board will revive the task force in the fall.

Over the summer, two board members will begin work on defining where we are and what we need for policies: M Garvey will recap status/progress to date and the board will agree to next steps. L Hamilton will review policy manuals from congregations who do policy governance.

Communications of Board to congregation - update (Croarkin). Croarkin agreed to write the May article for Soundings on policies and governance. Discussed ways to thank MSC for their hard work.

Upcoming Board Meetings – (Garvey)

There are 2 meetings in May – May 4, executive session to discuss proposed 2015-16 Budget. The regular business meeting will take place May 18, as scheduled.

Two meetings are scheduled in June also – June 15, regular business meeting with new members taking their seats. A new board member orientation on June 22; continuing board members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Very Fine Lifetime Volunteer Award – (Cross) Axthelm moved, Colletti seconded to go into executive session for discussion. After a discussion, a vote was tabled to the May meeting. Garvey moved, Cross seconded to go out of executive session.

New Business: none

Hamilton did process observations and offered closing words.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Mary-Jane Cross, Clerk