

Methodist Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds 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

May 18, 2015, 7:30 PM

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

Trustees absent: Denny Davidoff, Bobbie Herman

Mel Garvey called the meeting to order at 7:30. Colletti offered a centering reading.

Consent Agenda - T Croarkin moved, Lyn Hamilton seconded, passage of the Consent Agenda, including Board Chair report, Interim Minister Report, RE attendance report, Communications Committee charter, Safer Congregations Charter, Endowment Committee requirements to Building & Grounds Committee, Courtyard landscaping proposal, Resignation letter from Trustee M Paterson, April Board minutes, May Executive Committee minutes, Treasurer's Dashboard, Metro District meeting report, Resolution for Endowment Account Access. Passed unanimously

There were no new reports from Year Round Stewardship, Governance Committee, or Town Hall. The Buildings & Grounds report was moved to the discussion agenda.

The Big Question discussion centered on "What is the point of belonging to a faith where you can believe whatever you want to believe?"

Governance Committees – Reverend D Haffner presented revisions to the Safer Congregation Practices and Policies. By implementing the revised policy, TUCW will hit all 18 of the best practices for SSBPC. A question was brought up re clarifying accusations vs. legal procedures. The board requested revision of this section and clarification of other areas. Steve Axthelm moved, Ted Yang seconded, to accept the SCP as amended. Passed unanimously.

Reverend R Finkelstein presented a Disruptive Person Policy. Clarifications in wording were suggested by the board. Steve Axthelm moved, Tom Croarkin seconded, to pass the policy as amended. Approved unanimously.

First look – the Governance Committee Charter was passed out for board review and comment. It will be on the June agenda for approval.

Buildings & Grounds - C Colletti sent out a 1st look at the Five Year Capital Plan –CONFIDENTIAL. The B&G committee will update and revise this in the next few months and bring it back to the board for approval.

Board Policy Manual – M Garvey presented a draft Policy Manual outline. Sections were assigned to board members, who will meet with the committee(s) over the summer to draft a policy in each area.

At the June board meeting, we will revise the draft outline and report on status of each section. The goal is to have a first draft of policies by Fall 2015.

2015-16 Budget – A Khanna presented the proposed 2015-16 Budget to the board for approval. After discussion, MJ Cross moved, Tom Croarkin seconded to send this budget to the congregation for discussion and final approval. Passed

ession. Passed unanimously.

ew Business - none

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary-Jane Cross, Board Clerk