

(Adopted October 13, 2011)

Unitarian Society of New Haven
Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 4, 2011

Board Members Present: Gil Belaval; Sarah Berke; Thea Bourke-Martin; Gregg Burton; Patricia Duff; Sandra Frawley; Sue Linsley, Alan Price; Larry Rizzolo;

Board Members Absent: Lisa Anderson; Jesse Whitehead;

T. Bourke called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and G. Burton recorded the minutes. A quorum of Board Members was present, and the meeting proceeded with T. Bourke presiding.

Fundraising Coordination

The board discussed S. Berke's interest in focusing on coordinating fundraising events. It was noted that the intention is not for S. Berke to organize events as many are long-standing events that have established leadership, but to support and coordinate efforts. Noted that this proposal is in lieu of the appointment of a fundraising committee chair, as efforts to do so have been unsuccessful.

MOTION by P. Duff: that the USNH Board of Trustees empower Sarah Berke to coordinate all fundraising events, excluding canvass and endowment, for the 2011-2012 Congregational Year.

Seconded and passed without dissent; one abstention.

Draft Fundraising Calendar and Goals

The board reviewed a draft calendar of fundraising events and potential fundraising goals for each event based on historical figures.

Proposal for Targeted Canvass to Close the Furlough Gap

The board considered a proposal from the Stewardship Umbrella Group to undertake a targeted canvass to raise \$20,000 before the end of October in order to narrow the gap necessitating staff furloughs. Concerns were raised about whether the proposal should be a request for a one-time contribution or a request for an increase in pledge for the current year. It was noted that the proposal is contingent on the board agreeing to eliminate furloughs if the target amount is raised. The board discussed the extent to

which it is necessary for contributions actually received by the end of October to meet the goal and whether commitments to increase pledges over the current year would count toward the goal.

MOTION by G. Belaval: that the Board authorize the Stewardship Umbrella Group to conduct a targeted canvass, with all funds raised to be applied to reduce furloughs.

MOTION by G. Burton for a friendly amendment to append to the resolution that: The Board will commit to an elimination of furloughs entirely for the current fiscal year if the targeted canvass generates at least \$20,000 in commitments, with \$10,000 of such contributions actually received by October 31.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT ACCEPTED by G. Belaval

Seconded and passed without dissent; one abstention; one present but not voting

Waiver of Accounting for Trust Bequest

T. Bourke requested the input of the Board on a request for a waiver of accounting by trustees of a trust providing for a gift of 10% of the principal of such trust to USNH. All Board members assented to waiving an accounting.

Proposal for Reallocation of Solar Panel Contribution from Endowment

The board discussed a proposal by the Endowment Committee to reallocate \$1,500 of endowment funds that had been committed to the cancelled solar panel project and an additional \$700 to the general fund to reduce furloughs

MOTION by S. Frawley to accept the Endowment Committee proposal to reallocate \$1,500 from the cancelled solar panel project and an additional \$700 to reduce furloughs.

Seconded, but withdrawn prior to completion of the vote.

ACTION ITEM: T. Bourke to inquire whether proposal of Endowment Committee is specifically for the purpose of reducing furloughs and whether such use is permitted

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.