

Unitarian Society of New Haven
Minutes of the Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees
February 19, 2013

Accepted March 14, 2013

Board Members Present: Alison Cunningham; Thea Bourke-Martin; Sandra Frawley; David Jones; Georgia Jennings; Sue Linsley; Bobbi Pace; Margaret Rae; Jessie Whitehead

Board Members Absent: Gregg Burton; Russell Heinrich

Also Present: Emily Melcher

A. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm and S. Frawley recorded the minutes. A quorum of Board Members was present, and the meeting proceeded with A. Cunningham presiding.

E. Melcher lit the chalice.

Search Committee Formation Process

The Board continued its discussion of how to create the Search Committee within the timeframe developed at the last BOT meeting on 2/14. E Melcher provided information she received from several of her interim ministry mentors about ways of generating congregational input through nominations and voting. The Board made the following decisions:

1. The Congregation will vote for Search Committee members at a special meeting on May 5.
2. The ballot will contain a list of names generated from the nominations given to BOT and Transition Team members who make phone calls to USNH members. People who receive a number of nominations above some natural “break point” and who confirm their interest and willingness to serve on the Search Committee will be placed on the ballot.
3. Each USNH member may vote for 4 names on the ballot.
4. The people receiving the 4 highest numbers of votes will be elected to the SC. The BOT will then choose 3 additional members from the ballot to be on the SC. This will allow representational issues of age, gender, skills/experience, etc. to be considered in putting together the 7 member Search Committee.

BOT membership and ongoing governance work

A. Cunningham raised her concern with the fact that 5 current members of the BOT, including the VP, Clerk, and Treasurer, are going off the Board in June. This is challenging for continuity of the Board's work on governance issues as well as regular Board work. The Nominating Committee needs to be fully apprised of the concern for continuity and also needs to understand the types of skills that will be required in new BOT members. This may be further clarified after the governance retreat. There was brief discussion of what the By-laws do and do not permit in terms of extending terms of officers and at-large members and whether exceptions/suspensions may be made to current By-laws. The suggestion was made that people going off the BOT could continue to participate in the 3rd Tuesday governance meetings of the BOT. No commitments were sought or offered.

February 22-23 Governance Retreat

S. Linsley reviewed the schedule for the retreat and asked people to arrive and check in at the Courtyard by Marriott, Exit 41 on I-95, by 5 PM.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.