**BOARD MISSION**

**To provide leadership that supports the church's mission through effective policies and responsible stewardship.**

**BOARD COVENANT**

**We covenant to: Respect time by following a timed agenda and reviewing meeting materials prior to arrival, respect differing opinions, listen without interrupting, make space for all, remember the big picture, meet no longer than one hour unless there is a vote to extend the meeting for up to 30 minutes, speak with one voice once a decision has been made, focus on church business, refrain from micromanagement, work within the context of the UUA.**

**UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HINSDALE – BOARD OF TRUSTEES – MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 9th, 2022 - Time: 07:00 PM Central Time**

1. **Call to Order/Welcome Visitors.**

7:10 p.m. Everyone in attendance. Bob Daniel-Wayman, Susan Mooney, David Mrazek, Mike Pabian, Rev. Pam, Gene Schaffer, Dave May, Pam Fodor

1. **Check-in and feathers**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
3. February 9th, 2022. There being no comments or revisions, the minutes are deemed approved.
4. **Finance Discussion**
5. Finance Committee Updates; current view. Dave stated we still don’t have any reports, but Jeffrey is reportedly making progress and Kathy Holt, our consultant says he is able to run the annual contribution reports. She thinks income and expense statements, etc. will be ready in about two weeks.
6. Maintenance/Repairs update. Dave May stated that the Village has approved the fire alarm system. Moving forward. Electric service – with two very different quotations, Dave has been contacting John Cooperrider to set up meetings with the two parties. One phase service vs. three phase service. What do we really need and what expenses are involved. The old boiler needs to be removed; that’s another expense, and removing baseboard heaters. John got a price of $42,000 for masonry work, tuckpointing and replacing stones. He needs to confirm which walls are included. Need to determine the scope of work. John is looking to get one more quote from another contractor. We will need to find additional funds to do this masonry work. Rev. Pam confirmed this work is just around the door entry on west side of church. There are other areas that will eventually need to be repaired. Bob stated we need to put this masonry work into the budget next year. Rev Pam also mentioned that she heard from a church member that our past accounting practices were not optimum in other areas of bookkeeping.
7. **Staff Reports**
   1. Minister’s Report; Highlights/Board input

A discussion was had about Randy Sitka has reached the end of his troubleshooting the wifi system. Gene related that our new guy Keith is on the case. Rev Pam is in the process of working out the goals with Keith and whether he is paid by the event or period of time. A discussion was had about switching from Powerchurch accounting software from a different, easier to use software. Not Quicken, which is expensive. Powerchurch is not well-known to general church accountants. We’re figuring it out.

* 1. Programs Reports; Highlights/Board input

Bob raised the question of outreach to young people, and how we can try to get them to come back to in person classes. Pam will keep emailing parents and see if we can get them back. It may be tough this year. Rev Pam related that compared to many other churches we are doing very well in terms of having decent attendance.

* 1. State of the Church – Updates

1. **Other Business**
   1. Early Pledge Reports - follow up
2. Pam Fodor updated our pledges as of two days ago. 53 pledges for a total of $180,630.
   1. Planning for the rest of the year
      1. Budgeting- going forward
      2. Nominating committee- update

Pam related the committee is getting people to say yes.

* + 1. Fundraising – update

Susan Mooney related that the new group led by Steve Trout is looking to do a hybrid approach on the fundraiser. Simplifying the cash out process. Focus on big event items and a dinner. May 20th is the proposed date. Reach out to usual suspects who offer events and parties. Need to settle on perfect name and perfect logo.

Pam related there is another fundraiser April 10th, Cheryl Youngblood and the Youngblood Blues Band. A meal and free will donations.

* + 1. pledge drive – timeline Pam related that this weekend is our pledge event on Zoom. We will collect pledges thru March 21st and we can give the Finance Comm a final number and they can hash out the budget.
  1. Book Fair – Deb Daniel Wayman related a new online initiative called Books to Prisons run by a Unitarian church in Champaign, IL, that Deb is helping out with: book purchases made by individuals are mailed to prisons. She realized this same model could be used to help raise money for the church. A Bookshop.org storefront set up by Debbie takes orders for books and 30% of the proceeds would go to the church. Susan suggested getting sign-ups for books. The Board expresses gratitude to Deb for doing this.

The sponsoring org Bookshop.org is set up to help independent bookstores during pandemic. Her customers go there and can buy any of 7 million books, so there are reco lists. When people buy books they pay shipping and bookshop.org keeps track of the sales and taxes and commissions show up on her end and because she is setting up the prison page and church page, all money thru church page go to the church. Shows how much is purchased and her 30% commission. Deb is deciding to give a check to the church with. Mike P moved to accept this generous gesture and we thank Deb for her graciousness. Susan Mooney seconded. Gene related he will contact various Fellowship Circles to ask for book recommendations.

1. **Write-Ins**

Gene heard from a senior member of the church with concerns about the suggested pledge amount and Gene responded that it is simply the ideal target, and any amount is welcome. Someone mentioned they saw a comment on YouTube who saw a comment about not being able to get to church and do we have a shuttle bus. We do not. Gene suggested we might have a rideshare board that people could sign up for and get transportation.

1. **Executive Session;**

A discussion was had about issues Rev Pam needs to discuss with the Board. Bob will have a further discussion with her and follow up.

1. **Adjourn. Dave May** moved to adjourn seconded. Susan Mooney seconded. Adjourned at 8:28 pm