

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES Minutes**  
**April 25, 2016**

Trustees present: K Vogel, MJ Cross, A Khanna, KC Senie, L Shannon, J Turmelle, S Axthelm, Rev, J Morehouse (ex-officio)

Trustees Absent: M Garvey

Guests: W McEvoy (COM, CRTF), BW Stuck (NLDC), J Mason (CRTF), M Bishop (HR),

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:16.

**J Turmelle, A Khanna moved to elect K Vogel as Chair Pro Tem – passed unanimously.** Trustees checked in. No observer comments.

Consent Agenda: MJ Cross requested the Stewardship Policy be tabled until the May meeting, to allow for revisions to remove procedural wording.

**MJC, LS moved to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda – passed unanimously.**

- March Board minutes– approval
- Revised HR Manual - approval

Other Reports - Informational

- Senior Minister report – Rev. J Morehouse

Draft Budget 2016-17: A Khanna presented the first draft of the budget, with contingencies for an increase or decrease of revenue or expenses from the proposed budget..

**S Axthelm & L Shannon moved to remove denominational cuts from the under scenario –passed 3 in favor, 2 against, 1 abstain.**

**KC Senie, A Khanna moved an to put denominational \$cuts back in at 3,000, and put it last in the contingency list; After some back and forth discussion, A Khanna & MJ Cross moved to table the discussion of contingencies to the May board meeting – passed 3 in favor, 2 against, 1 abstain.**

The board discussed instructions we should give to the Finance Committee.

**A Khanna & MJ Cross moved to instruct the Finance Committee to proceed with no changes to the draft budget - passed unanimously.**

Constitution Revision: W McEvoy presented the current draft of the Constitution Revision proposal. Board discussion centered on Board responsibilities and authority. Since there were a few areas where the Board questioned the wording, it was agreed to continue detailed discussion and

propose revisions on those areas outside of the Board meeting. Changes will be sent to the Board and be inserted in the version of the Constitution to be debated at the May 15 Member Meeting.

**MJ Cross, S Axthelm moved that the board ratify the prior email vote to present the Constitution changes to the Congregation for discussion and vote on May 15 - passed unanimously.**

Next Steps Weekend: J Morehouse briefed the board on this Strategic-planning meeting with Congregational leaders June 10-12.

Communications: MJ Cross requested a board volunteer to take on the task of writing Thank You notes to Congregants for work done. KC Senie offered to do this.

Upcoming Soundings articles:

June - Ministry and Governance wrap up (progress toward goals for this year and plans for goals next year). We will discuss the article at May meeting, as part of our Goals review.

Upcoming Town Hall schedule:

May 29 – 2015-16 Finance review; 2016-17 Budget preview.

New Business: L Shannon brought up the Board need for an official Vice-chair, to avoid needing to elect Pro-Tem chairs. **MJ Cross, A Khanna moved to nominate L Shannon as Vice-chair – approved unanimously.**

Old Business: Mission / Vision Task Force, Progress review on 2015-16 Board Goals – both moved to May meeting.

Stewardship Policy discussion and approval moved to May meeting.

Process Observation: S Axthelm noted that discussions got out of control a few times, but members self-corrected immediately when Process Observer noted it.

Closing Words by Theodore Roosevelt offered by Ken Vogel.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary-Jane Cross, Board Clerk