

Attending: Lynda Shannon, Chair. Mary-Jane Cross, Carrie McEvoy, Catherine Onyemelukwe, K.C. Senie, Bob Trefry, John Turmelle, Ken Vogel, Chris Seiple (remotely) Rev. John Morehouse (ex-officio)

Guests: Dorothy Adams – Executive Director; Lara Fuchs – Intern Minister; William McEvoy, M Bishop, A Pfluger, R Burnham – Committee on Ministries

Agenda Topic	Discussion	Motions & Votes (M/S/V); Actions
Call to Order 7:05	Chalice lighting and opening/ B Trefry -reading from R F Kennedy speech on race - 1966	Guests, observers welcomed to the meeting
Consent Agenda	1. Minutes: February 2017 Board Meeting	The proposal for use of the Jan Park bequest is remanded to the Finance Committee for their recommendation. M/S/V to approve Consent Agenda – passed.
Information Reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YTD Financials 2. Lift Update 3. Report on 3/19 Town Hall 4. Executive Director report 5. Senior Minister report 6. Fairfield County Indivisible report 	B Trefry expressed appreciation for including the balance sheet in the YTD financials. Lift installation is waiting for improvement in weather. Sunday’s Town Hall was sparsely attended; K Vogel suggested that the Board rethink how to run these.
Report from the Constitution Revision Task Force (CRTF) – C Onyemelukwe	<p>Catherine reported the Task Force has concurrence from the affected staff/committees to propose three amendments: 1) to change the financial requirement for membership from a pledge to a financial contribution of record; 2) to remove leadership development from the Nominating Committee, and, 3) to add a Line of Credit clause including language limiting the use of the LOC. Various other changes were also recommended to correct errors and typos and clarify language. After discussion, the Board agreed with these proposed Constitutional amendments.</p> <p>A fourth item in the Task Force’s charge was to evaluate making the Committee on Ministries (COM) a standing committee of the Board. The members of the COM did not concur with the recommendation from the CRTF in supporting this proposal. After a challenging discussion among members of the COM and the Board, the Board postponed consideration of this item until later in the meeting.</p>	The Board approved the proposed Constitution revisions for presentation to the Membership for a first vote on May 7, 2017. Ratification of the Constitution will occur at the Annual Meeting on June 11, 2017.

Adopting our Governance Policies	Initial Ends policies were developed during the Fall 2016; a draft set was accepted on Feb 5, 2017, underwent revisions and rewrites, and is ready for adoption. Governance Policies adopted in 2015 were revised by K Vogel & L Shannon, reviewed by the full Board, and are ready for adoption. Limitation Policies were initially drafted in November 2016, reviewed and revised by Board members, and are ready for adoption.	M/S/V to adopt Limitations Policies – passed. M/S/V to adopt Governance Policies – passed. M/S/V to adopt Within/Among/Beyond Ends Policies – passed.
Executive Session (ES)		M/S/V to go into executive session.
Constitution Revision	The Board returned to the proposal to make the COM a standing committee of the Board and determined that the best interests of the congregation would be served by postponing this move. This change will not be proposed to the congregation this year.	
Check out /Assignments	J Turmelle will have surgery (YNH) on Thursday, March 29.	Individual Assignments as noted in these minutes.
Process Observer	J Turmelle reported our agenda was over-packed for a 2-hour time frame and suggested allotting longer time for discussions; also noted was the lack of preparation Board members had in advance of the CRTF recommendation regarding the COM item. L Shannon added, in order to accomplish our Board work at each month’s meeting, we need to be careful not to allot time for discussion of non-Board topics. Information items that do not need or require Board action should be clearly tagged as For Information Only not action or discussion.	
Closing Reflection	K Vogel gave closing words from Statue of Liberty – E Lazarus	
Announcements and Adjournment	Next Board Meeting - Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 7:00 PM Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm	Meeting assignments for April 18: Set-up: Lynda and Carrie Refreshments: Ken and MJ Chalice lighting: KC Process Observer: Catherine Closing reflection: John T Break down: Chris and Bob

... Respectfully submitted,

... Mary-Jane Cross, Board Secretary Mar 21, 2017

