

The meeting was called to order at 6:33

Board members present: Paula Fulks (2022), Steve Harvey (2022), Claire Wyneken (2023), Toni Saunders (2023), Sara Fleming (2024), Kalen Ponche (2024), Steve Swift (2024), Chuck Schuder (2024), Barbara Gadon

Not Present:

Guests: none

Decisions in bold

Action items highlighted

Gather (5 min)

- Chalice lighting & Opening Reading Chuck

Check-ins)

Meeting Preparation (5 min)

- Finalize agenda
- Ombudsbuddy Report - SteveS
 - Steve will make some changes to clarify the report before the next meeting.
- Confirm meeting assignments:
 - Timekeeper - SteveS
 - Process & Transparency Observer - Sara

7:00 Consent Agenda (5 min)

- Approve September 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Affirmation of New Eliot members (Bylaws, Article III, Part A): Steve & Holly Swift
- Accept Policy Monitoring Reports: ([See Policy Compliance Record](#))
 - 2.8 Toni/Kalen
 - 4.5 - Barbara from June
 - 4.6 Barbara
 - 4.7 - Barbara from September

The board removed item 4.6 from the consent agenda for later discussion and passed the remainder of the items on the consent agenda with a voice vote.

The new ends (10 Minutes)

- Update on congregational survey. [Kalen/Sara/Chuck]
- The promotional plan has been set up with Debby Lovell and a link to the survey has been posted on the board website. The survey will close Nov. 2 and we will go from there.

Board Development and linkage (5 minutes)

- Other ideas? [Steve]
- Steve would like the board to read and discuss some articles. He asked us to send ideas to him. He will send articles by the next meeting.
- Joint event with Canvass. - Steve, Toni and Claire will help plan a canvass event.
- Barbara suggested **Claire email the church office to ask for name tags for the new board members by midnight tonight.**
- Aug. 19-20 is next year's board retreat.

Treasurer's Report [Sara] (15 minutes)

- Sara reached out to Camille Novak to ask about simplifying the financial report. She offered a history of how the financial reports have been handled in the past and how it has changed in the past. The changes make historical comparisons more difficult. Camille suggests simplifying to produce a variance report on a quarterly basis as opposed to a monthly basis. Claire suggests adding a footnote for any variances over a certain amount. **Sara will work with Camille on that moving forward before the next board meeting.**
- Do we need a budget town hall meeting? -- No, it was mistakenly added to the agenda.

Short break! (10 minutes)

Lead Minister's Incidental Report. General discussion - [Barbara] 20 min

Barbara mentioned she was surprised by the numbers and fewer families in attendance. Barbara would like to hold two meetings in which the church could discuss what we would like to see for the whole church.

Barbara said she was interested in possibly having a workshop or meeting to discuss the state of the church finances. The meeting could lead to some sort of a class that talked about church financing and trying to build a bridge with people who are involved and committed and those who aren't there yet. There are 112 members who don't pledge anything, what would it look like if they pledged \$20 a month?

UU Wellspring is a yearlong covenant group/class. You have to commit to a regular spiritual practice. You work with a spiritual director or companion. To get it established, Barbara recruited 10 people and it's great. The people who go through it are so happy with it, they are the folks who promote it and are willing to make the commitment next year. She asked the people to consider being a leader in a following year.

Unfinished Business (5 Min)

- [Items moved from Consent Agenda]
- Paula asked the board to look at the board policy 4.6 to remove Gary Gray as a person who can sign checks on behalf of the church, despite the fact that he is not a member of the staff or the board. The board discussed the matter and will look at finding someone else to regularly sign the checks rather than Gary Gray. **Kalen moved and Chuck seconded to defer**

consideration of policy 4.6.7 to next month. The board voted to approve the remainder of policy 4.6.

- The Board approved the policy monitoring report for 4.6.7
- Steve H will send flowers to Camille Novak to remember her father by Friday.

8:10 Meeting Summary, and looking ahead:

Process & Transparency Report - Sara

Decisions/Actions Taken/Follow Up

- Steve Swift will make some changes to the ombuddy report.
- The board removed item 4.6 from the consent agenda and then adopted the consent agenda on a voice vote.
- Steve would like the board to read and discuss some articles. He asked us to send ideas to him. He will send out a draft.
- Barbara will offer an interpretation of the ends.
- Kalen will pull together details of the results of the survey.

Monitoring assignments for Nov 9, 2021 Meeting

- 3.5 Policy Noncompliance Paula/Kalen

(See [Policy Compliance Record](#))

The board adjourned at 8:39pm.

Reminder Dates

- October 2021 -- Congregational survey
- October 12, 2021 - October board Meeting
- November 9, 2021 - November Board Meeting
- February 8 2022 - Next Chair-Elect at Feb Board meeting (to be chair beginning 7/1/2023)
- March 2022 -- Proposed Board/Canvass event.
- May 15 2022 -- Congregational meeting.
- August 2022 -- Next year's retreat.