



Beacon Board Meeting, 4/16/18

Present: Chris Grazioso, Heather Turnbull, Michele Blanchard, Susan Spencer Cramer, Janet Roberts, Dave Gordon, Neal Eisenstein, Madhan Gounder, Emilie Boggis, Ken Carlson

1. Executive session
2. Discussion of minutes and how the board handles them; the secretary will make sure the minutes reflect if a decision is not finalized.
3. Carol made a motion to approve the March 2018 minutes subject to revision of one section. Michele seconded; motion passed unopposed.
4. Budget update
 - Chris updated the board on the progress of the 2018-2019 budget. He is putting in costs and salary assumptions, along with pledge information, and will look at the ministers' wish list. One variable will be the music director position. We will hold a special board meeting on May 7 at 7:30 to review the budget. A Town Hall that focuses on the budget will be held on May 20 after each service. We also need to create a capital budget.
5. Leadership Team Report update/clarifications
 - Pledge update

Since the start of the fiscal year in July 2017, we have added 32 new pledges, totaling approximately \$44.5K. 190 Beacon friends renewed pledges, which have increased by 6.8%.

- Tuli is taking incremental steps to implement safety protocols such as special locks on the classrooms.
- Emilie reported on the sessions the Leadership Team have done with consultant Sue Phillips. They have discussed how to be collaborative especially when tasks overlap, as well as worship and small groups.

6. Update on board training

- Madhan, Michele and Heather attended a board training session on 4/14 in New York. About 50 people attended from congregations of various sizes. The book on governance that the board read was actively referenced. One takeaway that we could implement: being more specific and thoughtful about creating board goals and assessing ourselves.

7. Evaluation of open sessions

- The March session had about 35-50 people. The April sessions were held after each service; 20-25 after the first and 10 after the second. We will hold the sessions between services in the future. The board discussed the differences between open sessions vs. Q&A sessions. When we have bigger generative initiatives (such as the name change), we have gone out to the congregation to give people opportunity to give their insights on one issue. These are Q&A sessions.
- Madhan brought up the idea of a continuous, rolling strategic plan that allows us to continuously iterate in smaller ways. We should consider holding a session that focuses on what growth means to the congregation, in order to work through any fears or hesitations. We should also consider a longer board retreat, which offers time for relationship and reflection.

8. Guatemala service trip update (Emilie)

- A success!

Carol made a motion to adjourn; motion passed unopposed. Meeting ended at 9:36.

