

USR Board of Trustees Meeting
August 26, 2021
Minutes

Attendance: : Dawn Walter, Sarah Lenzi, Kris Bluemel, Chris Dunnigan, Craig Hertenstein, Jack Lohr.

Excused: Don Campolo, Helen Matusow-Ayres

Meeting on Zoom began at 7:06 PM.

Sarah narrated the search process she and Jeanne Nametz undertook to find a candidate for the combined Religious Education [RE] Assistant and Nursery Supervisor. Job descriptions for both positions and the candidate's CV had been distributed ahead of the meeting. She explained that these were the positions held by Beni Crespo prior to the Covid19 closing, and that she had been offered the job. After some discussion of ways to promote employment of people of color, Sarah agreed to work with Ann Pareti to draft a recruitment policy to reflect those concerns.

ACTION: The Board endorsed Sarah's proposal to hire the candidate, who will be announced after the required background check and confirmation of Covid vaccination.

ACTION: The Board set the second Wednesday at 7 PM, for regular monthly meetings through December, on Zoom.

Chris reported that he has submitted applications for forgiveness of the Paycheck Protection Program [PPP] loans for both 2020 (~\$57,000) and 2021 (~\$32,000).

Dawn announced that each Board member will be asked to prepare a "3-picture, 3-sentence" slide on the topic, "How I spent my summer vacation," to share at the September 8 Board meeting.

Dawn led a review of the Safe Congregation Response Team's [SCRT] reopening guidelines which had been distributed before the meeting. Discussion centered on the importance of community and the need to protect one another to the maximum extent possible. The Board proposed to clarify the expectation that until risk levels are low everyone 12 and older who is medically able should be vaccinated, and only those who are vaccinated (honor system) may attend in-person events. Special attention was directed to plans for RE, which includes too young to be vaccinated.

The Board will submit any additional suggestions to improve the document to Dawn within 12 hours, and she will revise the guidelines to be published in advance of this Sunday's Town Hall following service. Sarah agreed to open the Town Hall with context and a reading of the Congregational Covenant, and to close the event with final words. Dawn will preside together with a representative of SCRT, and the rest of the Board will be process observers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM, to meet again at 7 PM September 8.

Secretary Pro-tem,
Jack Lohr