

Reversing Falls Sanctuary
Minutes of the May 20, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting

Present: Anne, Bec, Daksha, David, Gary, Karen, Kathleen, Lisa, Ralph

Facilitator: Daksha

Recorder: Lisa

1. **Opening:** Poem by Nancy Wood read by Daksha, *My Help is in the Mountain*
2. **Agenda review:** NA
3. **Minutes** from last meeting approved. Comment about more details in the minutes prompted a discussion that lead into the treasurer's report.
4. **Treasurer's report:**
 - a. Current balance \$25,708.28
 - b. Climate convergence budget is \$4900 (*clarification, is this in addition to the amt in (a) or part of?*)
 - i. Co-sponsoring risks and implications. In future, RFS BOD should request more information from requesting organizations. In particular, a budget should be presented as well as info about other co-sponsors. It was decided that rather than develop a protocol now, this new process will be implemented the next time a request is made of RFS. The idea being that our fiduciary responsibility needs more conscientious oversight.
 - c. We are still paying RFS propane bill.
 - d. Electric bill that is currently going to Ralph via email and is paying needs to be redirected to Karen so RFS can pay directly and Ralph can make donation toward, as desired. Work on this is in process.
 - e. Question still unanswered: Can we use the Brooksville UMC's Maine state tax exempt ID number for materials purchases for building maintenance and upgrades? Gail can send it, but should she? Short term decision is to keep making materials purchases without it and pay sales tax.
 - f. Insurance inspection took place a couple of weeks ago. The inspector showed some concerns related to roof, steeple, and fire extinguishers.
 - g. Discussion followed related to disconnect between authority over the building (the BUMC) and responsibility for the building (RFS). This could have larger ramifications going forward if expenditures to keep the building operational increase dramatically.
5. **Programs report:** (previously emailed) Friday's movie brought in many people. Younger, newer people attended. (Current screen is a pain. New screen? Building committee will explore installed hanging screen after bathroom renovations are complete.) Several June programs scheduled.
6. **Building and Grounds report** (previously emailed):
 - a. Question: Status of hand pump on well? Not purchased yet. On hold since water into building with outdoor faucets will be completed soon.
 - b. Steeple report (old business): Estimate for restoration \$50-60K.
 - i. Consider going steeple-less; suggestion to remove, and possibly repurpose into gazebo or artifact
 - ii. If no steeple, what would be the focus of capital campaign? Could be generalized into raising money for exterior repairs. "SOS" Save our Sanctuary.
 - c. Target date for functioning bathroom, June 21, in time for Solstice ritual.

7. **Gallery Within:** Current show is generating interest. Open Sat & Sun thanks to artist doing gallery sitting. June show is set. Beyond that, not. Looking for someone to step up to arrange and hang future shows.
8. **Old business:**
 - a. **Steeple** (see above)
 - b. **Safe Sanctuary:** New, succinct draft submitted for review. Suggested changes are to replace references to “pastor” with “board president.” Should be displayed in the building and an additional agreement page should be signed by building users. (Another example of the importance of addressing disconnect between building authority and building responsibility.) Tabled until Bec has time to edit the document.
 - i. **Side discussion:** Any RFS fliers to be posted at the Blue Hill Congregational Church should be given to the secretary, not hung up.
 - c. **Climate Change:** Encourage pre-registration. Budget for this should be tracked. Hoping for ~200 people, many persons are being admitted free - students and their parents, speakers, the volunteers and others - so a dollar estimate is difficult to predict.
 - d. **Callahan Mine:** No updates.
 - e. **United Methodist Foundation Grant Program:** Gary needs line item budget for kitchen/bathroom project (Daksha to provide), budget for the church, budget for RFS, and 2 letters of support (from?)
9. **New Business:**
 - a. **Fun(d) raising:** Ideas for summer fundraising events/activities?
 - i. Portrait painting has been successful in the past
 - ii. Weekly tea, café, music, art, silent auction?
 - iii. Capital campaign
 - iv. **Strategic planning:** Building and programs, yes, but what about our ongoing purpose/dreams/passions? Suggestion for annual goal-setting session, apart from BOD meeting, to regain focus, take stock, express how we find meaning, our vision for RFS. Perhaps in the fall.

Volunteer hours: Kathleen - 5, Daksha – 34, Lisa - 7

Next meeting: Monday, June 17, 9:00 AM

Facilitator: Lisa

Recorder: Kathleen

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Mazzarelli, 5/20/2019.

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