

FIRST UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY IN BROOKLYN

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JUNE 14, 2020

(BRW draft 8/9/2020)

[The Bylaws of the Society provide that the Annual Membership Meeting shall be held on the third Sunday of May each year. However, at its regular meeting on April 9, 2020, the Board passed a motion to postpone this year's Meeting because of the ongoing Covid 19 epidemic and the resulting closure of the Society's buildings to all meetings. At its regular meeting on May 14, 2020, the Board passed a motion that the Annual Membership Meeting should be held On June 14 and that it would be conducted by Zoom teleconference. The Membership was notified accordingly.]

12:41 p.m. – Call to order; quorum

Michael Alcott, Moderator, called the meeting to order pursuant to notice via Zoom teleconference and announced that an examination of the participants in the Zoom meeting showed that a quorum existed. [At the time, Zoom showed a total of 77 connections to the teleconference.]

Meagan Henry, Director of Education and Family Ministries, offered opening words and lit a chalice.

Mr. Alcott welcomed Members to the Meeting and referred to the Meeting Agenda (ANNEX A), Meeting Rules (ANNEX B) and Rights Relations Covenant (ANNEX C) that had been made available on the website.

Mr. Alcott announced that Mary Most would act as timekeeper, Liz David would act as Parliamentarian and James Mills, Cara Haft, Abby Grosslein and Parrish Turner would act as Inspectors of Election.

12:50 p.m. - Election of Trustees and Officers

Mr. Alcott recognized June Wohlhorn, Co-Chair and the Leadership Development Committee. Ms. Wohlhorn reported that the Committee had nominated the following persons:

As Trustee: Megan Munroe, Andrea Parkinson and Matt Robinson.

As members of the Leadership Development Committee: Laurel Lesio-Eisenstadt, Catalina Bertani and Laura Manos-Hey.

As Clerk: Bruce Wilde

As Moderator: Michael Alcott.

Since no other nominations had been made, Ms. Wohlhorn MOVED as provided in the Bylaws, that the Committee's nominees be elected.

SECOND by Ezra Etri. Motion PASSED on a unanimous show of hands (there were no Members voting by telephone).

1:00 p.m. - Treasurer's report and budget

Mr. Alcott recognized Lake Wise, Treasurer.

Mr. Wise reported on the results of the 2020 fiscal year ending June 30. He said that revenues were a little below budget, probably attributable to the Covid 19 emergency. Expenses were over budget, mainly a result of payments to Denham Wolf for services relating to renting the daycare space and expenses for completing the accessibility project. He said there will be an operating deficit of approximately \$300,000, which has been partially offset by the Payroll Protection Program loan received in the amount of \$106,340.

He provided an overview of the proposed 2021 fiscal year operating budget, which is up about \$41,000 compared to the 2020 budget. Staff compensation is up \$32,000 because of higher benefit costs, a 2% cost-of-living increase, special increases for the Director of Congregational Life and the Music Director and a small increase for religious education staff. There is also provision for a second payment of \$20,000 to Denham Wolf for their continuing services. Building expense is down, because certain building expenses have been moved to the capital budget, which is new for fiscal 2021

Trustee John Carroll reported on the work of the Long-Term Rental Team, which is working on the rental of the daycare space. He said the consultant Denham Wolf believes the space is worth substantially more than the current rental agreement provides, even taking the effects of the Covid 19 emergency into account. He said the Society signed a phase two agreement with Denham Wolf June 4 under which the consultant will be paid a minimum fee of \$20,000, plus a variable commission if it negotiates a new rental agreement.

Mr. Alcott called for questions on the budget. One question was received by chat--whether Denham Wolf's work also relates to the rental apartments at 48 Monroe. Mr. Carroll answered that it does not.

Mr. Wise MOVED adoption of the fiscal 2021 budget as set out in ANNEX D. SECOND.

There was no discussion. The motion PASSED on a show of hands with all voting in favor except for one abstention noted. No Members voted by phone.

1:25 p.m. - Report of Board Co-Presidents

Outgoing Board Co-President Sam McKelvie referred to the 2020 Annual Report and the State of the Congregation document presented at a May 14, 2020 information meeting, which are available on the Society's website. She noted that the Board elected Pat Steele as the new Treasurer on June 4.

Outgoing Board Co-President Dawn Elane Reed reported that a Pandemic Talk Force is being formed to help guide the response to the continuing Covid 19 emergency. She said that in accordance with UUA guidance, provision is being made to continue virtual worship through May 2021, if necessary. She noted that many members and staff are considered to be at high risk from Covid 19. She also noted that the summer worship schedule is all set.

The agenda having been completed, Mr. Alcott ADJOURNED the meeting at 1:34 p.m.