

NUUC Board of Trustees Meeting

October 17, 2024

In attendance: Rev. Sarah Prickett, Courtney Thibodeaux, Beth Shively, Hillary Valor, Sara DaSilva, Mary Chimarusti, Jeremy Northum, From membership: Kate Rhoad, Sara Moser, Greg McDonnell

1.) Check-In

- a. Next meeting, we need to approve August, September, October minutes
- b. We did not have quorum in September to approve August; September minutes were not ready by October meeting

2.) Non-Active Member Removal (Kate Rhoad from Membership Circle)

- a. Kate Rhoad shared the process by which the Membership committee recommends member terminations (see attached document)
- b. Membership is considering changing bylaws so that removal does not require board approval
- c. Board feedback: while approval may not be necessary, it's not a bad idea for the board to double-check the list in case they are familiar with a person or situation that needs follow up; board will review monthly updates from stewardship for this purpose
- d. Board feedback: are their trends noted in why folks are leaving? Answer: not strong trends, but a couple of folks noted they had had losses and did not feel the NUUC community supported them adequately
- e. Membership is working with stewardship, hoping to move financial contribution/new pledge piece of membership to stewardship, as membership has many duties

3.) Treasurer's Report (Jeremy Northum)

- a. Checking account: \$39,517.37
- b. Share the Paddle fund: \$4,892.78
- c. Jeremy proposes we add the Share the Paddle funds as a line item in the budget; each year when we build the budget, we can put in an (low) estimate in the budget and adjust to reflect the actual amount raised

4.) Minister's Report (Rev. Sarah)

- a. Rev. Sarah will take her 4 month sabbatical in the 2025-2026 year
 - i. She will break it into two, two-month sabbaticals
 - ii. We need to budget for the cost of covering a guest minister and possibly have someone on call for emergency pastoral care needs
 1. Estimate \$5000
 2. Jeremy's suggestion: in the future we should incorporate this expenditure in our budget
- b. The Woodlands Christian Church is for sale
 - i. \$4.9 million, 300-seat sanctuary
 - ii. This warrants discussion
 1. Where is Northwoods headed?
 2. Do we want to grow and how?
 3. 5 and 10-year plans

4. Board questions/concerns: Besides space, what dynamics keep us from growing? How would our energy be diverted from projects going on now, especially projects that are building and clarifying processes?
5. Suggestion to have a casual, low stakes meeting one Sunday after church to discuss the idea and our vision

5.) Town Hall for Bylaws Revisions

- a. Town Hall roughly scheduled for late January
- b. Goal to tag bylaw revision meeting on immediately after the annual meeting

6.) Service Auction- Raise the Paddle

- a. S.A. representatives have expressed hesitation about adopting the project manager plan for RTP
- b. Board would still like to see a RTP project proposal form completed for each project and a project manager in charge; board members do not feel comfortable approving large expenditures without a chain of command and competitive bids for large purchase

7.) Google Drive

- a. A NUUC Google drive has been launched
- b. Goal is for it to be a home for church documents so they can be easily shared and accessed by all