

Greetings from your outgoing Board of Trustees!

Our May 16th Board Meeting was the final meeting of the year and we enjoyed some farewell cookies provided by Stephen throughout the meeting.

The Board began in Executive Session to complete Rev. Abbey's evaluation for the Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC). This was the third and final annual evaluation conducted for the MFC as part of Rev. Abbey's path to final fellowship. The Committee on Shared Ministry also conducted an evaluation and Rev. Abbey conducted a self-evaluation. The evaluation process was a good time to reflect on how much we appreciate Rev. Abbey's ministry to First Unitarian as well as our progress, growth, learning edges from last year!

The Board also agreed to change Rev. Abbey's ministerial agreement to include twelve paid weeks of family leave (from six paid and six unpaid). This change is in line with new recommendations from the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association. It will apply to all First Unitarian full-time employees and we believe is an important step in valuing and fairly compensating our staff.

The board received a year-end update from Rev. Alison Cornish about her collaborations with First Unitarian in the months since she became our affiliated community minister. We share her feeling that we may need to create a more effective mechanism to facilitate connections between her work and the congregation and we hope that the board will consider what that might look like next year.

We reviewed a final draft of the MOU with Friends of 2125 Chestnut Street (F2125) and we voted to execute the agreement! This document will guide our relationship with F2125 over the coming years. It stresses the collaborative nature of our work together and our shared commitments to careful planning, shared fundraising, and open and transparent communication as we work to preserve, restore and improve our building for the years to come! The next step is to year, form a "Concept Plan Steering Committee" with members appointed by both First Unitarian and F2125 to begin the process of creating a Master Plan for our building.

Finally, we confirmed the agenda for the May 19th Annual meeting and reviewed the nominees for open Board and Nominating Committee seats. We voted to recommend the 2019-2020 draft budget to the congregation and again affirmed the ways in which the draft budget supported the foci set forth by the Board earlier this year. These included:

- Build Stronger Relationships within our Community
- Improve Leadership Development
- Continue to deepen out Social Justice Commitments

This is the final update from your 2018-2019 Board of Trustees! It's been a joy to work together as your board this year!

With Warm Regards, The 2108-2019 Board of Trustees (Annemarie Vaeni, Rebecca Ortenberg, Scott McCarthy, Debby Schultz, Steven Oliver, Matt Schreck and Zinat Yusufzai)