

Members present

Christopher Wilt, Joe Rubin, Sherry Manetta, Hank Murray
Revs. Heather and Cathy Rion-Starr

Guests David and Janice Newton

6:32 Sherry Manetta called the meeting to order

Opening words from Chris Wilt

Winter is coming

Words of Stark, from the pop culture phenomenon Game of Thrones by
George R. R. Martin

6:34 review board covenant

Changes to agenda

Executive session first

Removing discussion of ministry and governance due to the absence of
Stephanie Briggs

Expect to adjourn early

It was noted that we do not have quorum, therefore no voting took
place.

Executive session at 6:37

7:20 board came out of executive session

This month's thank you notes are going to:

Rayla and Xavier for last week's service

Brian Harvey for the many hats he wears

Kayla Costenoble for writing up worship summaries

Next month's thank you notes are tentatively scheduled to go out to
Garvais estate trustees for additional money

Kate Gervais for coordinating the auction

Linda Clark for her work on the inserts in the order of service

7:24

Roof

Hank and David Newton presented information about the state of the
roof.

USH sent out an RFP to local contractors and builders. 2 contractors
and 1 salesperson came to look at the roof, and we expect to be given
2 bids for different approaches to fixing the roof. We believe that
the proposals will be given to us that use a solvent based 20 year

surface on the majority of the roof.

Hugh said 1 choice can be done basically at any time, the other option has to be done after the winter.

A board under the stairs in January may help to let everyone know about the roof.

If it appears that time is of the essence for the roof, Hank will coordinate making all of the necessary information get out to the board. If time is less important, the board will review proposals in December and discuss it with the congregations over the next few months, and decide what to do after congregation-wide discussions.

How is the congregation going to be involved in the discussion?

A combination of holding board under the stairs and the e-news will be used to make congregants aware of the roof maintenance.

7:40 PM

Vision 2020

Focus on longer term view, as well as a focus on fiscal 2019 plans. We are doing both of those concurrently.

Taking discussions about using the upcoming board retreat to discussing taking the strategic plan to the next step.

FY 19 planning – guidance for stewardship we are currently working on.

Do we want to re-instate quarterly reports from the sub-councils?

Maybe want to make this more of an annual thing, which would allow it to be in time for the new budget

Have this start more of a continuous dialogue between the councils and the council chairs.

Cathy suggested that we implement this in January?

- a) Information for the board
- b) Council chairs will have a dialogue with their sub-councils
- c) Inform the 2019 plan and budget and the strategic planning

goals

What are we trying to raise money for?
Concrete systems, infrastructure

Feeling good about change, about impact on ourselves, our USH community, our broader greater Hartford community

Gathering resources to implement a plan

The goal is to produce a concrete, grounded plan that details how the plan will be implemented, with the full specifics of how each option will be funded. Options are differentiated from one another in terms of what line items they continue, but for all options, the line items are completely explicit.

8:10

Stewardship

5 questions Mark Ewert asked us to tackle

"Arc of stewardship" – where are we in terms of defensiveness about money

What do we want to get done in future budget?

Who are we trying to reach? Are there groups of people should we reached with specific messaging?

* What does our annual budget create that we can celebrate?

* Where is the congregational level, energy, temperature? "In general".

Board members answered the questions with an asterisk by writing on a piece of paper, and sharing what was written.

Stewardship is taking a post-auction reprieve, will try to craft some key messages and an overarching theme for the stewardship drive.

Stewardship team will work on developing messages and materials for the stewardship drive. They will meet with the board on January 16 meeting for the board's final review, at which point we will have trainings for the stewardship dinners.

Auction netted approximately \$6,000 at last tabulation

8:37

Safety and security

State police are hosting a program on safety in houses of worship. Hank signed up for this event, December 14 from 7:00–9:00 PM, and will report back what he learns at the events. Hank will get a small thing in the e-news to invite people to the event.

8:41

Other matters

None

Closing words from Chris Wilt

Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters.

Albert Einstein

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43