

Board of Trustees Meeting - November 17, 2024 - Final
First Church of Religious Science DBA Oakland Center for Spiritual Living

Minutes taken by Nancy Hester

In attendance: Beth Van Arkel, Nancy Hester, Deborah Jackson, Reverend Aikya Param, Elke Moritz, Sam Ladion

Absent: Reverend Sunshine Michelle Coleman

Evocation: Reverend Aikya

Approval by Board - Resolution.

We are paying for it, it's needed in the minutes if someone files a claim for worker's comp. Beth has a sign posted on bulletin board in the social hall and gave pre-designation forms to staff. Resolution language approved by Board although Rev. Aikya stated we should wait for Rev. Sunshine to participate in this discussion.

Status of New Membership

There are two possibilities for a new membership class. Susan Brecker will teach the class. Sam and Deborah noticed that in today's service there were more new faces. Elke and Beth agreed they noticed as well. Question raised: does anyone do anything thru Breeze regarding new members?

Status on FundRaising Income

Nancy gave an update on the auction. Auction got off to a slow start. We extended the date and advertised in the pulpit. The last two weeks people were bidding like crazy with multiple offers. Items that didn't sell last year sold this year. There were many "re-donates" as Nancy and Gabriella reached out to those individuals. Deborah stated people have alot going on right now in their personal lives. We had to really nudge people to bid. Just about all items sold! Deborah contributed \$300.00 to our auction to help bring the income to \$3000.00!

Update on burglary - skip until Rev. Sunshine returns

Vanguard Account - Elke

It's established. Once a year people can make donations, cash or stock. Ask for a form if they want to donate. Cash donations eliminate merchant fees. Few people do ACH transfers. Deborah asked if we can alert congregants, get this info into announcements to use ACH? Ask Rev. Geri to include this in her pledging request. The church will benefit if we educate the congregants on the ACH process. Elke offered to bring this up to Rev. Sunshine or Rev. Geri.

Finance Matters - Treasurer's Report, Elke

Elke gave an accounting report. Total contributions for the month of October - \$20,642.54 which is 13.74% decrease from the same month last year (\$23,930.34). Gross profit income for

the month - \$28,753.74. Total expenses for the month - \$32,393.95, *net loss of -\$3640.21. Total net loss from January to October 2024 - \$44,580.33 Average net loss per month - \$4458.03.

Income points of interest: facility use, net \$4,440 (\$5540 income & \$1100 expense). Chair dedication: \$1600. Expenses outside regular monthly: \$1247.18, water bill (every other month) it was at least \$350 higher than normal due to water leak. Bob found the leak and repaired it.

Personnel expenses: \$17,689.80 which was a bit over budget. Sunday musicians: \$1700 which was within budget.

Balance sheet, funds as of month end 10/24

- BofA operating acct ** \$19,964.96
- BofA education acct: \$1000
- BofA bookstore acct: \$2117.30
- BofA buffer acct: \$10,411.83
- Summit bldg fund account: \$6,753.08
- Self help MM acct: \$69,670.42
- BofA designated acct: \$18,083.73

Education and bookstore account balances typically include some operations funds, pending to be moved to operations at periodic intervals.

*Income and expense on this report do not include activity of designated funds

**Facility use deposits received and held in operation bank at the end of month reported (not yet shown as income): \$6406.00.

Beth spoke to Peggy about her increase in hours. It's related to more editing and rechecking required for the powerpoint postings; her hours are from 12 to 20 hours which includes Wednesday and Sunday services.

We have \$6406 on deposit for a tenant who will use the social hall. It's a one time rental.

We took \$10,000 from Self Help bank to cover expenses..

Postpone ministers report until Rev. Sunshine Michelle is present

Meeting adjourned and Sam closed the meeting with prayer.

Moved on to discuss Letter of Call confidentially.