

**Accotink Unitarian Universalist Church**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**June 4, 2017**

Called to Order: 11:30

Attendees: 78

**State of Congregation:**

Connie Diamant, Board President

“Resisting change creates sorrow” Lao Tzu. Reviewing the year, we have had 70 children enrolled in RE. There has been a successful auction, brunches program, pledge campaign, summer camp, HVAC and door replacement. Thanks to our volunteers. We must bid goodbye to our Reverend. COOM will change to the transition team to act as brain trust for new minister, informing her of history, organization and the people of this church. Most of Board will stay on; Kristina Watts will be vice president and will become president next year. “The church is us”: there are places for volunteers available: Before service chair setup; provision of coffee and cookies; Auction committee: 7-8 needed; Communications (Debbie Cohen) needs one hour a week from someone. “Volunteering is good for health”.

**Interim Minister Committee report:**

Jan Forsyth

3 weeks of intensive effort: soliciting input, developing questions, gathering information conducting interviews and reviewing sermons. Rev Olson Peebles will serve for one year with an option for another year. She has been ordained for 20 yrs and served 16 at Arlington UU. Thanks for Ed Kringer, Dick Robison and Connie for advice and consultation.

**Election of Officers for 2017-8:**

Connie Diamant

Moved seconded and passed unanimously “that the entire slate be voted on together”

Moved, seconded and passed unanimously “that the congregation approves the slate of candidates”.

**Outreach Selection:** Forms passed out, congregation urged to vote and leave the forms to be collected.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Dick Robison

See report. We have \$3k surplus in a \$460k budget. The delay in the \$18k for easement until August has required that we borrow from ourselves. Utilities over budget, will improve with new HVAC. Office over budget. Bank fees excessive, alternatives being explored. Mortgage has been refinanced on a 15-yr basis, no longer balloon, and will be paid off at the end of that term. Bids are out for window replacement; this will be financed by donations. The new minister will be at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time for the first year: this will reduce office costs and help pay for windows. We expect a \$15k surplus next year, and a deficit the year after. A depreciation schedule is being developed for yearly put-aways. Items include parking lot repair, lights, water heater replacement (current one is too large; a new smaller one with improved technology will save costs). Dick needs an understudy now to take over Treasurer next year.

**Memorial Garden:**

Don Eckerman

Final approval has been granted and permits obtained. Construction will start Aug 1. completion mid-September, for mid-October dedication. We have 4 benches available for purchase, one has been sold. Plaques can be installed or the benches engraved for additional cost. Price will be around \$1,200 each.

**Religious Education:**

Lara Profitt

We have 4 classes and nursery. Attendance has increased to 40-45 avg over last three months. The CSDC is developing a theme-based program to coordinate with services. There are Junior (grades 6-8) and Senior (9-12) classes. Volunteers are needed twice monthly. ASDC is planning 4-week courses before and after services, child care included. Spirit Camp will involve elementary kids in creating and problem solving and a youth program. There are needs for supplies, such as TP, cardboard etc.

**COOM Report:**

Kristina Watts

See slide presentation.

Moved, seconded and approved unanimously "That the charge to the committee be approved as written"

**Covenant Committee:**

JoAnn Flanagan, Ken Heller, Michele Andersen

The aim is to put into words “our aspirational best selves”, to include the elements of respect, acceptance and accountability, nonviolence, support, contribution, working to improve our lives and the world. The interim period has now become useful for this work. There are 3 parts: text for bylaws and preamble, a poetic/liturgical composition, and an expanded explanatory document. All committee covenants are to be integrated. There will be a regular 5 to 7-year review.

**House and Grounds:**

Dick Robison

Painting of downstairs planned this year, upstairs next.

**Message from the minister:**

Rev Scott Sammler-Michael

When he first arrived 9 years ago, he was struck by the maintenance issues with the building and the lack of a schedule for repairs, as well as the lack of a calendar. He notes impressive gains in that area as well as all others, increased professionalism, and a “kinetic sense of care” leading to action. Other ministers are impressed with the harmony and love present in this congregation, and the transparency, openness and ease with criticism, making AUUC a special place. He talked of the Social Justice program, which both gives direct aid and advocates for change, making “Holy Trouble”. He was given a standing ovation for his services.

**Closing:**

Connie Diamant

Moved, Seconded and passed unanimously that the meeting be concluded at 12:55pm

Respectfully,

Peter Campbell  
Secretary