

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board of Trustees BUDGET Meeting
April 21, 2018

BoT Members Present: Anne Stark, Dave Stensaas, Kathy Campbell

Other Attendees: Heidi Gould, Mary Maki

Opening words: “We are here to abet creation and to witness it, to notice each thing so each thing gets noticed. Together we notice not only each mountain shadow and each stone on the beach but we notice each other’s beautiful face and complex nature so that creation need not play to an empty house.” — Annie Dillard

39 certified members

24 responses for the survey

Exploring other venues for Sunday Service – Temple Beth Shalom

Sale of the Building – Put it on the Market?

Sale of part of the property?

Flea Market Fundraiser – Every Saturday June – August

Forums are needed to address the history of our congregation, and the process of acquiring the building

Forum required to address the survey results

Forum on Options to move forward in the future

Discussion of Studio RAD proposal – not a waste but good information to forward, fuel for thought.

Dave - Hiring a Realtor to represent MqtUU – 4.5 acres

New roof, new water heater. Land has to have increased in value

Dave – copy of the survey to send to the assessor

Heidi - For the May 6th congregational Meeting might we have the info regarding the notion of selling the building/property? (NO)

Sari - Work on improving/balancing the budget before discussing improvements to the building, selling the building? The building is an asset.

Sari mentions the positive of new families dedicating children, are we growing?

Heidi -However, if 3 new families joined and pledged \$100 (year) that does not address the monthly deficit. Kathy comments a lot of young couples can’t afford much. Anne adds that as young children age out of RE families quit coming.

Dave - Selling the building is a fluid process, will take time and if in the meantime financial prospects improved we could withdraw from selling.

Heidi – Jamie is working on her credentials and commitment to RE, while considering how to conduct RE without a building. A distinction ought be made between the quality of programming apart from the physical space in which it is held.

TOP PRIORITIES - Minister, Music, RE

Dave – We are not committing to any improvements to the building in the immediate future.

Anne – One capital investment we ought to make is the AV system improvements, monitor, tablet and control board, all wireless. Sari suggests getting the largest screen. Also, none of the hearing aid devices are working.

Heidi – Votes for prioritizing the floor, painting before the AV. But yes on these 3 investments.

Dave – linoleum is an affordable option

Anne - mentions sound quality of linoleum flooring

(Then Sari mentions scheduling the visit at Temple Beth Shalom)

Anne – painting schedule, walls not ceiling...

Schedule Forum on cost of flooring, paint AV

Mary asks about headset/microphone? Anne says the proposed amount might absorb that cost since her calculations include two monitors and the vote is that we only need one.

Anne – has financial cost breakdown of AV system rounding to about \$5000.

Dave says \$6000 after consulting and installation

51 minutes into the meeting focus shifts to completing the proposed budget

Anne asks why AE is \$1000 less than last year

Heidi – Because we're not paying the CPA

Anne asks about payroll taxes? Calculations for last year are not accurate but adjustments can be made.

Mary suggests start subtracting absolute necessary expenses and go from there.

Sari inquired about "Share the Plate" would deleting STP increase the collection by half? The theory is such that when we "share the plate" the collection is more than if we do not share the plate, increasing what we collect. Our collection may increase some but not necessarily but the half that has been shared. "Share the Plate" is not in the budget except as an expense.

Much explanation of numbers in the budget, as proposed budget amounts based on what was pledged/promised! As in \$2500 in fundraising based on a promise to have a yard sale that never happened. \$9149 was transferred from Joan's Bequest to balance the budget based on fulfilling committee requests.

FLEA MARKET: 20 vendors x \$20ea x 17 Saturdays = \$6800

Budget will reflect a compromised amount of \$2500.

Dave – B&G need to budget for parking lot repair/maintenance

\$8999 initial bid Jetblack. Jetblack did patchwork/crack repair last year.

Dave – flooring cost estimate \$15,000 - \$20,000

Heidi points out this current discussion is based strictly on incoming pledge receipts, so what happens with \$18,000 building fund, \$40,000 Joan's Bequest, \$35,000 Vision Fund?

Anne – B&G budget \$22,000 for basics. \$15,000 of Joan's money budgeted on flooring

Review of current treasurer report, percentages of budgeted amounts spent to date, prioritizing expenditures.

Budget was proposed and approved at the May 6, 2018 Congregational Meeting.