

Minutes of the Finance Council
December 6, 2018

Present: Bing Johnson, Jeannine Varenhorst, Sarah McNeill, Elizabeth Branstead, Liz Purcell, Petra Baer

Stewardship — Elizabeth Branstead reported that 70% of the pledge packets have been returned for a total of \$153,545. The amount currently pledged represents 90% of our target budget. The average pledge was increased by 10% from last year. As of date, 32 member packets have not been returned. Elizabeth reported that she and Art have contacted members who have not pledged. If we hit our target pledge of \$170,332 staff will receive a 2% raise.

Bing made the observation that we did not go over budget this year due to influx of new members. It was agreed that Membership Committee plays a key role in recruiting and retaining new members.

Utilities — The problem of unusually high water bills was discussed. In the past year, leaking toilets, outside faucets being left on and indoor faucets being left on has led to three months in which the bill was nearly double that of normal months. Automatic shut-off faucets have been installed in the bathrooms. It was suggested that timers be placed on the outdoor faucets to help minimize waste.

Key Finance Positions — The implications of not having a Fund Raising Chair and an Auction Chair were discussed. Petra will contact Christine Prado about plans for getting a new Auction Chair.

Budget — Bing reported that at the end of the year money left in the Capital Expenditures line will be moved to a special fund. Monies left in the Building maintenance line will be moved to a Building Maintenance Special fund.

Tree trimming — Kathy Crain has pulled together a group of donors to pay for trimming trees that are scrapping the Sanctuary and the Founders House. \$1350 has been pledged. Liz Purcell has gotten three estimates. The lowest is \$1610. Bing stated that the Kennelly Fund could be used to cover the short fall.

Projects for 2019 — Bing suggested three projects the FC should tackle in 2019 - 1. a Conflict of Interest policy for hiring and 2. A policy for dealing with subcontractors and 3. Monetizing our facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Purcell