

February 9, 2011

Minutes – First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit

Board of Trustees

Liberate truth, Radiate kindness, and Love courageously

Organizing Principle: First Unitarian Universalist Church is an urban center for spiritual renewal and social justice in Detroit.

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in Memorial Hall on February 9, 2011. President Marilyn Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Members in Attendance: Marilyn Mitchell, Bill McKnight, David Lingholm, Kathleen Jacobs Johnson, Sally Borden, Robert Johnson, Dessa Cosma, Dan Wiest, Rev. Bill Neely.

Excused: Julie Brock, Linda Darga.

I. Minister's Report: (Attached)

- A. Check-in with one another to maintain cohesiveness.
- B. Keep coming to worship.
- C. Will give staffing report at end of the year – when questions concerning the building are further resolved.
- D. Program recommendations – focus on sermon writing, Pastoral Care, and either Social Justice or Membership.
 1. We may not have the leadership to do all at once.
 2. See where interest lies to decide.
 3. Doing Social Justice can grow membership
 - a. Plan 1-3 big events a year to do well.
 - b. Offering donation?
 - i. Would receive recognition within the area/city
 - ii. Helps to develop relations with other organizations.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Officer Reports:

1. Kathleen Jacobs Johnson, Secretary, Minutes of January 12th (Attached). Motion to approve the minutes made by Dan. Seconded by David. Minutes were approved as presented.
2. David Lingholm, Treasurer, (Attached)
 - a. Moving bank account for First Church from Chase to Michigan First Credit Union in Lathrop Village.
 - b. In regards to January statement, part of the Trust infusion was entered in error as donations – needs to be corrected.
 - c. Pledging starting to come back.
 - d. Dennis Dupree (DESC) will be at March 12th Board meeting to teach the Board what to look for in numbers with budgets and spending.
 - e. Budget for Settled Minister search committee – previously \$10,000.00

III. Old Business:

- A. Canvass – Robert, Dan, and Bill still have names to finish. Hurry so that we can get a complete membership list for congregational meeting and UUA.
- B. Newsletter, Robert – Aiming to be done this upcoming Sunday.
 - 1. Will include something about video making for Church.
 - 2. Include something about 95th anniversary planning.
- C. Interim Search Committee, Sally – Bill, Robert, Sally to be the new Interim Search Committee charged to find a new $\frac{3}{4}$ minister for 2011-2012.
- D. Anniversary Task Force, Kathleen (Attached).
 - 1. Contact either Rev. Lisa Presley or Rev. Lynda Smith to see if either can do the sermon for the Anniversary. Rev. Neely offered to share the sermon if he is available.
 - 2. Check with Al Acker to see if he is able to contact WSU to get permission to use the Prentis or Forest lots for that Sunday.

IV. New Business:

- A. Church Plan, Sally – Have Dan remove this from the website as to not to mislead prospective ministers.
 - 1. Have Dan figure out a way of dividing the document to leave the history portion up.
- B. Bylaws Endowment revision, Bill (Attached)– Work also on Endowment Bylaw and Funding & Distribution Policy.
- C. Online communications within the Board, Dan – Looking into more streamlined programs for Board to use when emailing, but is still trackable. ACTION ITEM: Dan to have recommendation at next meeting.
- D. Congregational Informational meetings, Marilyn – Currently meeting during potluck Sundays. February 20th next. Bill and David (if available) to help present.
 - 1. Give synopsis of expenses, repairs (include Todd's organ report), pledges, and number of members.
 - 2. Start informing of divestment of the church building.
 - a. Can mention that Board has submitted a Memorandum of Understanding to open negotiations.
 - b. Board looking to stay in church for the next 5 years.
 - 3. Provide new plan of programs and money saved over the years post divestment.
 - 4. Feedback meetings important to hear comments from the congregation.
- E. Prentis Parking Lot – Look into possibility of selling (to TechTown, Apartments, Brewery).
- F. RFP, Dessa
 - 1. MOTION: Sally moves to have RFP developed within 2 weeks, circulated, and proposals returned within 60 days of February 9th. The contract with TechTown will not be signed before 60 days. Dessa seconds. PASSED: 6 Yes; 1 No.
 - 2. Once the Rubric is created, Board to re-evaluate if TechTown needs to submit a formal proposal.
- G. Task Force on future planning of what we want the church to be, Sally – table until later after church building discussion.

Adjournment: 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Jacobs Johnson, Board Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 9, 2011 7:00pm Memorial Hall

Attachments:

1. Agenda for February 9, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting
2. Minister's Report (2)
3. Minutes: January 12, 2011
4. Treasurer/Financial Reports (2)
5. Revision to Endowment Fund Draft (Bill)
6. Anniversary Task Force (Kathleen)