

**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**First Unitarian-Universalist Church**  
**April 11, 2012**

**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 April 11, 2012. President Sally Borden called the meeting to order at 7:08pm and the board and guests read aloud together: "We covenant to work together in honesty, kindness and respect for each other as we carry out our elected responsibilities to do the business of this church to the best of our abilities. We are a religious community. Let us move forward in love."

**Attendance:** Present were Rev. Roger Mohr, Sally Borden (President), Kathe Stevens (Secretary), Dan Wiest (Treasurer), Sean McAde, Sandra Thottakath. Robert Johnson (Vice-President) was absent, Marilyn Mitchell (Past President) was excused. There was a quorum. Guests present were: Mary Lou Malone, Chair, Settled Minister Search Committee; Sherry Wells, Activities Coordinator; Danny Rebb.

**Minister's Opening Remarks:** Rev. Mohr opened the meeting by invoking the spirit of community.

**Secretary's Report – Kathe Stevens:** IT WAS MOVED BY DAN WIEST, SECONDED BY SEAN MCADE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 14, 2012 MEETING AS PRESENTED; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. IT WAS MOVED BY DAN WIEST, SECONDED BY SEAN MCADE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 8, 2012 EXECUTIVE SESSION AS PRESENTED; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Treasurer's Report – Dan Wiest:** Dan presented and summarized *First UU Profit and Loss March 2012* and *First UU Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2012*. An account has been opened at Michigan First Credit Union and church funds will be transferred to it. EMEAC owes First Church at least \$5,000-\$6,000 for reimbursement for the lease on the two boilers and the DTE credit. A budget meeting is scheduled for April 21 at 11am at which a proposed budget for both a three-quarter time minister and a full-time minister will be presented.

**Settled Minister Search Committee Report – Mary Lou Malone:** Mary Lou Malone, Chair of the Committee, circulated a printout of the UUA Ministerial Search Committee Calendar containing succinct dates for an August 1 ministerial start date. She noted the first five items in March are the church board's responsibility. The board would consider reconstituting the current search committee with the caveat that it would report to the board monthly and with the understanding that the board would be immediately advised of any roadblocks encountered; the board would like to see deadlines met not only on time but early. Rev. Mohr noted he is meeting with Heartland District Executive, Rev. Dr. Lisa Presley, and that he has a good relationship with Keith Kron, UUA Director of Transitions. Rev. Mohr will be advocating for the congregation. He will critique the Congregational Record. IT WAS MOVED BY DAN WIEST, SECONDED BY KATHE STEVENS, TO RECONSTITUTE THE SETTLED MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. The board thanked Mary Lou and she excused herself from the meeting.

**Activities Coordinator – Sherry Wells:** The announcement that an Activities Coordinator was approved by the board was well received. Sherry reported on details of an activities "smorgasbord" to be held in social hour on Sunday, April 15. The board thanked Sherry and she excused herself from the meeting.

**Worship Report – Sean McAde:** No report.

**Building and Grounds – Dan Wiest/Robert Johnson:** Dan Wiest again expressed gratitude for the help and work that Tim Bailey continues to do. Contractor Chris O'Brien, and his colleague

found leakage problems in the crawl space under the church. Kim Sherrobi, EMEAC building manager, is aware of the issue. Some electrical problems were also found. A friend of Tim Bailey who is an electrician has volunteered to help. The EMEAC/Congregational clean-up day is May 5.

**Canvass/Membership – Marilyn Mitchell:** Sally Borden reported in Marilyn’s absence from Marilyn’s written report. The 2012 fiscal year Canvass began on Easter Sunday. Eight pledges have been received so far for a total of \$12,990. Marilyn plans to be at the pledge table through the month of April to receive pledges with a goal to receive at least 90% of pledges by the end of April so a realistic budget may be presented at the May 6 annual meeting. Each Board member was asked to make a pledge by Sunday, April 15. Marilyn’s pledge goal for 2012-2013 is \$80,000.

### ***Old Business***

**Communications Committee – Rev. Mohr:** Rev Mohr has been unable to schedule a meeting; the goal of the meeting is to get announcements and information flowing more smoothly and efficiently. When it is scheduled, Sally and Kathe will attend. Meanwhile, Rev. Mohr has instructed Office Administrator Tamara Halliburton to post to the email group as a whole.

**EMEAC Transition Task Force – Dan Wiest:** A joint celebration for the transition of the building to EMEAC is planned for May 20. The proposal to lease the parking lot will have to be approved by the congregation. Dan reported that Diana Copeland, the Executive Director of EMEAC, wished it to be noted that EMEAC has paid \$38,000 in expenses since September.

**Brochures – Kathe Stevens:** Palmer Printing on the WSU campus will print 200 color, tri-fold, two-sided brochures for \$85; Kathe will give the printed brochures to Tamara for safekeeping.

**Status of Minister – Rev. Mohr:** Dan Wiest will bring a proposed budget to the April 21 meeting to contemplate paying Rev. Mohr for the month of June. The extra cost would likely not include any professional fees and the pension costs have already been paid.

### ***New Business***

**Yearly Reports for Functioning Committees – Sally Borden:** Sally noted that all functioning committees need to prepare an annual report to be ready by April 30 for the May 6 congregational meeting. Rev. Mohr and Sally will prepare introductory letters. Other reports to be prepared:

- Marilyn Mitchell – canvass/membership
- Dan Wiest – treasurer/finance/trust
- Robert Johnson/Kathleen Jacobs-Johnson – worship
- Mary Lou Malone – settled search committee
- Sherry Wells – activities coordinator
- Dan Secrest – communications
- Kathe Stevens – PR/Development
- Sandra Thottakath – Social Justice

### ***Other Business***

Danny Rebb reported on an article which appeared in the Detroit *Free Press* on Easter Sunday, April 8 featuring 21 Detroit historic churches. Agreeing it would be beneficial to be part of any association or formal organization of the historic churches, the board approved Danny to investigate and report back.

**Adjournment:** IT WAS MOVED BY DAN WIEST, SECONDED BY KATHE STEVENS, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:13PM; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary