

## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Board of Trustees First Unitarian Universalist Church February 13, 2013

**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 on February 13, 2013. President Sally Borden called the meeting to order at 7:05pm 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."

Present were Sally Borden (President), Marilyn Mitchell (Past President), Cynthia Zurschmiede (Vice-President), Kathe Stevens (Secretary), Dan Wiest (Treasurer), Marsha Bruhn, Sean McAde, Danny Rebb, Sandra Thottakath, and guest, Robert Johnson. There was a quorum.

**INVOCATION AND MINISTER'S REPORT:** In Rev. Mohr's absence, Sally Borden paraphrased a quote from Unitarian Minister Theodore Parker, "the arc of the universe is long, but I believe it bends towards justice."

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** The minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed and reviewed, it was *moved by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Dan Weist, to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2013 meeting as presented; passed unanimously.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Dan Wiest presented *First UU Profit and Loss Statement* for January 2013 and his written report. After summarizing both, it was *moved by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Cynthia Zurschmiede, to approve the financials as presented; passed unanimously.*

#### COMMITTEE/PROGRAM REPORTS:

- **Activities Coordinator.** Sherry Wells asked to be excused from written reporting, since she reports in the newsletter, order of service, and emails. Sandra Thottakath volunteered to be the board liaison to the Activities Coordinator. Kathe will advise Sherry of the assignment.
- **Worship Committee.** Robert Johnson reported the Worship Committee's determination that a set rotation of speakers for the lay side of the service will improve the quality of the audio recording of services. The Board will continue to function as greeters before and during the service. The Worship Committee will create greeting guidelines, which will include a process for greeters in social hour.
- **Canvass/Membership.** Marilyn Mitchell will organize a new membership drive and canvass in March.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Church Directory – Marilyn Mitchell.** Marilyn distributed a directory form and photo video release form for review and will work with the Communications Committee and Rev. Mohr to coordinate who is compiling the directory.

**Archives – Sally Borden:** Consistent with the Board's concern that a method be available to remove the archives from the library in order to prepare for the church's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016, or any other purpose, Leonard Coombs of the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library provided

a written check-out process for archival material. Therefore, *it was moved by Marilyn Mitchell, seconded by Dan Wiest, to donate First Church's paper archives for preservation to the Bentley Collection, passed unanimously.*

**Rev. Mohr's 401k Contributions – Dan Wiest:** Dan will write a \$3,000 check to Rev. Mohr as soon as paperwork submitted to the UUA and Fidelity Investments has been completed by those organizations. The Church Trust has not yet been asked to provide the remaining \$6,351.24 as approved at the February 13 meeting. After discussion, it was agreed that Dan should contact the trustees to request the funds.

**Developmental Ministry – Sally Borden:** Sally distributed a printout of emails between her and Keith Kron, UUA Director of Transitions, proposing goals for a developmental ministry. After discussion, a fifth goal was suggested and it was *moved by Danny Rebb, seconded by Marilyn Mitchell, that goals of continued steady growth and recruitment of new members, continued organizational restructuring, improved communications, leadership development, and developing a plan for a stable ministry, be listed in our application for developmental ministry; passed unanimously.*

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Organ Fundraiser – Kathe Stevens:** Kathe summarized a written request distributed to the board. After discussion, it was *moved by Danny Rebb, seconded by Marilyn Mitchell, that \$50 be taken from the fundraising line item in the budget and moved to a separate line item for the organ fundraiser, to be repaid from proceeds of the concert.* It was also *moved by Marilyn Mitchell, seconded by Dan Wiest, to open a Twitter account in the name "1st UU Skinner Organ" or similar to use social media to advertise the fundraiser and to open an EventBrite account to keep track of registrations; passed unanimously.*

**Behavioral Contracts – Sally Borden:** Sally asked Board members to help enforce appropriate behavior of attendees at the Sunday service. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that the social hour coordinators should turn out the lights in McColleston Hall at 2pm and ask those still gathered to leave.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sally Borden suggested a recognition ceremony to be held at the annual meeting for both long-time and new members who have made consistent contributions to First Church. Sally and Cynthia will form a subcommittee to organize.

Dan Wiest reported that fees for 2013 PrideFest would be \$450 for a visible location, \$125 for a less visible location. The consensus was that First Church would not participate in PrideFest this year.

It was agreed that it was important to receive a written report, via email or otherwise, from Bill McKnight, EMEAC liaison, regarding EMEAC meetings which he attends.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary