

**MINUTES**  
**FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**  
**Congregational Meeting**  
**May 19, 2013**

**ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE:** First Unitarian-Universalist Church is an urban center for spiritual renewal and social justice in Detroit.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Annual Congregational Meeting of the First Unitarian Universalist Church was called to order by President Sally Borden at 12:35 P.M. on May 19, 2013.

**ROLL CALL/QUORUM:** Board members present were Sally Borden (President), Marilyn Mitchell (Past President), Kathe Stevens (Secretary), Dan Wiest (Treasurer), Marsha Bruhn, Sean McAde and Sandra Thottakath (Trustees-at-Large). Danny Rebb and Cynthia Zurschmiede (Trustees-at-Large) were excused. A quorum of congregational members was present.

Rev. Roger Mohr gave the invocation.

Sally Borden introduced the agenda and advised that printed copies of the Annual Report were available to the congregation at the meeting.

**MINUTES:** Kathe Stevens summarized previous meeting minutes which had been distributed during the meeting for review. It was **moved** by Al Acker, seconded by Robert Johnson, to approve the minutes from the January 29, 2012 special congregational meeting and the May 6, 2012 annual congregational meeting as presented; **passed unanimously**.

**BY-LAWS CHANGES:** Marilyn Mitchell advised that written summaries of a proposed change to Article V Section 2 of the By-Laws of the First Unitarian Universalist Church were available at the meeting for review. Marilyn then introduced the changes to the Article V, Section 2 of the By-Laws:

“The Board of Trustees shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President and four (4) Trustees-at-Large. Two Trustees are elected at the Annual Congregational Meeting for two (2) year terms every other year, and two (2) trustees are elected for one-year terms. Each Trustee may run for an additional term. The President, with the consent of the Board, shall appoint a person to complete the term for any position that is vacated before its expiration. The President and Vice President are elected for one (1) year terms and may serve for two (2) consecutive terms. The Secretary and Treasurer are appointed by the Board from members in good standing and serve at the pleasure of the Board without automatic term limits. The Immediate Past President remains in office until a new President is elected.”

The change returns to the practice of having 2 two-year director positions that overlap. In addition, it makes the Secretary and Treasurer positions of indeterminate length and persons serving in those positions serve at the will of the Board.

It was **moved** by Robert Johnson, seconded by Kathleen Jacobs Johnson, to approve the change to Article V, Section 2 of the By-Laws as presented; **passed unanimously**.

**ELECTION:** Sally reviewed the proposed slate:

Officers:

Marsha Bruhn – President  
Danny Rebb – Vice-President  
Matt Friedrichs– Trustee-at-Large  
John Smykowski– Trustee-at-Large  
Cynthia Zurschmiede – Trustee-at-Large

Nominating Committee:

Lencha Acker  
Sally Borden  
Colleen Dolan-Greene  
Elaine Sikelianos  
Toni Tront

General Assembly Delegates:

Julie Brock  
Mary Lou Malone

There being no nominations from the floor, it was **moved** by Trey Greene, seconded by Sherry Wells, to approve by acclamation the slate for 2013-2014 as presented; ***passed unanimously***.

Sally thanked the current nominating committee: Lencha Acker, Danny Rebb, Elaine Sikelianos, Toni Tront, and Margaret Wilkie.

**BUDGET:** Included in the Annual Report available at the meeting were a Profit and Loss Statement, which contained the proposed 2013-2014 budget, and a summary prepared by Treasurer Dan Wiest. Dan reviewed the P&L statement and proposed budget. After discussion, it was **moved** by Trey Greene, seconded by Mary Lou Malone, to increase the fundraising event income line from \$5,000 to \$13,000. A **friendly amendment** was made by Sally Borden, seconded by Paul Chislett, to add \$2,500 to the pledging line item, and to notify the congregation of fundraising progress on a monthly basis in the newsletter; ***passed unanimously***.

It was then **moved** by Trey Greene, seconded by Edie McKnight, to pass the proposed 2013-2014 budget as amended; ***passed unanimously***.

**ARCHIVES:** Sally reported that First Church's archives have been donated to the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library. She read a letter from Mr. Leonard Coombs expressing his appreciation for the donation of First Church's archives.

**UPDATE ON TRUST:** Bill McKnight was introduced to give an update on the Church trust. The trust was used for years to fund building expenses, leaving its assets now at \$150,000. The five trustees are Marilyn Mitchell, Sharlene Gage, James Robinson, Al Acker and Bill McKnight. The assets are managed with Merrill Lynch. A few years previously a \$6,000 endowment was created using Trust assets. Bill encouraged the congregational members to include the trust and endowment in estate planning.

An expression of thanks was given to outgoing President Sally Borden for her two-year tenure and her accomplishments.

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was **moved** by Marilyn Mitchell, seconded by Dan Wiest, to adjourn the meeting; ***passed unanimously***. The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary