

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
February 12, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 12, 2014. Present were President Marsha Bruhn, Vice President Danny Rebb, Treasurer Dan Wiest, Immediate Past President Sally Borden, Trustees-at-Large, Matt Friedrichs, Sean McAde and Joan Smykowski, and guests Tim Bailey and Joel Batterman. Minister Roger Mohr and Secretary Kathe Stevens were excused. President Bruhn called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. There was a quorum.

Minutes approved: Matt Friedrichs moved to approve. Joan Smykowski seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report submitted in advance. Discussed the Unapplied Cash payment and budget options Dan Rebb **moved** to approve the January financial report. Matt Friedrichs seconded. Motion passed.

Joel Batterman spoke on the Outreach committee

- First meeting in October
- Met four times since then
- Established guidelines
- Planning future events: service to church events, better event coordination
- Working on calendar of events
- Work with development on fundraising events
- Members include Mary Lou Malone, Sean McAde, Joel Batterman, Beth Bailey, Lucianna Sabgash, Matt Friedrichs

Matt asked about social justice involvement: MOSES, MUUSJN. This was followed by discussion on Congregational Poll on Proposed Congregational Study/Action Issues and how to incorporate them with First UU initiatives. It would be good to have speakers on some of the Study/Action Issues. The committee meets on first Wednesdays. The Board offered advice on structuring the committee.

Dan Wiest presented financial projections for the rest of the year. Areas to explore include:

- Insurance costs were discussed. What do we own that needs to be insured? Pianos? Tim Bailey will check on this.
- Dan Wiest will check into payroll expenses overage.
- Dan Wiest will check into whether a payment plan can be done for Rev. Mohr's retirement plan.
- Marsha Bruhn proposed that Rev. Mohr speak from the pulpit on our financial situation.
- Have meeting of big donors – Dan will provide a report to Joan.
- Informational meetings will be held for the congregation. An article will appear in the next newsletter to provide a continuing picture of our situation.
- The Development Committee does not have any fundraising initiatives for the rest of the year.
- Are we sustainable?
- Parking lot income will help but no definite amount can be determined.
- Pledge parties but those are for next year (can include the need for this year).

- Reducing the amount of the dues to Heartland, UUA.
- Emphasis is on the need to increase income from outside the congregation.
- Hold a special meeting with the Development Committee and other church/board members - Matt Friedrichs will undertake this.

A **motion** was made by Sally Borden to send \$175 towards or Mid-American and UUA dues. Seconded by Dan Rebb. Motion passed

A **motion** was made by Sally Borden to pay \$6300 that was originally given by the Trust toward Rev. Mohr's retirement. Seconded by Sean McAde. Motion passed.

Dan Wiest will compose a newsletter article on March 1 clean-up in preparation for the Choir Festival.

Membership Committee report

- Efforts are being made to get the congregation more connected.
- Have "listeners" hold 1x1 with members to build relationships in advance of pledge campaign.
- The schedule is up to the listeners - rollout this Sunday.
- Canvas meetings start in March.
- After examination, the current membership count is 89.
- The Greeter program doing well.
- A New Member Survey is going out for input and background gathering.

Dan Wiest will write an article for the newsletter to obtain budget input from committee heads.

EMEAC is inviting First UU to have a presence at an open house on Feb 20 from 6-8. Dan Rebb will attend.

Find a date for Diana to speak to the congregation after the service to speak on EMEAC programs.

Parking lot

- Motor City may offer gravel to fill the center aisle. Marsha trying to arrange a meeting with Diana.
- Marsha handed out Lease agreement with Motor City Brewing. Commenced on February 15.
- Tim noticed that the Prentis lot was almost full last Sunday. Dan Wiest and Tim Bailey will work on leafleting the lot.

Dan Wiest will distribute Church Mutual background-check rates before the next meeting.

The PayPal policy tabled until next month.

Because of budgetary reasons, First UU will not participate in the Motor City Pride Festival

Discussion on the Board Retreat was tabled.

Adjourn at 9:45.