

MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave, Detroit, MI 48201
May 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on May 14, 2014. Present were President, Marsha Bruhn; Vice President, Danny Rebb; Immediate Past President, Sally Borden; Secretary, Kathe Stevens; Treasurer, Dan Wiest; Trustees-at-Large, Matt Friedrichs, Sean McAde and Joan Smykowski; and Rev. Roger Mohr, *Ex Officio*. Also present were guests John Linardos of Motor City Brewing, and Mary Lou Malone and Robert Johnson of the Worship Committee. President Bruhn called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

Marsha Bruhn requested that the Board go into Executive Session after completion of Old Business to discuss the proposed lease agreement presented to First Church by East Michigan Environmental Action Committee.

Guest John Linardos of Motor City Brewing Works, Inc. was introduced by Marsha Bruhn and welcomed by the Board. The current MCB six-month lease of ten spaces in First Church's Prentis parking lot, running from April 15, 2014 to August 15, 2014, was reviewed, followed by discussion about possibilities for a long-term lease. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 4 at 10 A.M. at MCB. Participants will be Sean McAde, Tim Bailey, Matt Friedrichs, Dan Wiest, Marsha Bruhn, Rev. Mohr, Dan Scarsella and John Linardos. The Board thanked John for attending and John excused himself at 7:44pm.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Mohr reported that he and Matt Friedrichs attended a Gamaliel Foundation conference.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed and reviewed, it was **moved by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Dan Wiest, to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2014 meeting as presented; passed.** Sean McAde noted that the strategic planning meeting reported in the April 9 minutes has not yet been organized.

2014-15 BUDGET: Dan Wiest outlined proposed cuts to the draft budget. Rev. Mohr affirmed that to get a balanced budget, cuts must be made. Mary Lou Malone and Robert Johnson provided comments on behalf of the Worship Committee. After discussion, Marsha Bruhn thanked Mary Lou and Robert for their participation and they excused themselves at 8:30pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dan Wiest presented and reviewed his financial report, which included a profit and loss statement for April 2014. Continuing with the budget, Dan explained reductions he was able to effect by changes in renter's insurance coverage, which lowered the premium. Rev. Mohr graciously accepted the switch from his standard medical insurance plan to a plan with higher deductibles, which also will save money.

Sean McAde volunteered to coordinate coffee hour.

It was decided to present only a preliminary budget at the May 18 annual congregational meeting. The meeting will be recessed and reconvened at a later date. A special joint Board and Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled after the May 18 meeting in order to finalize a budget to present to the congregation for vote at the reconvened annual meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Worship – Danny Rebb’s written report was accepted as presented.

Development – Kathe Stevens’ written report was accepted as presented. The Hilberry fundraising event raised \$307.49.

Buildings & Grounds – Dan Wiest reported five people made progress at the May 10 clean-up of the bride’s room. Rev. Mohr will support the next clean-up from the pulpit.

Membership – Joan Smykowski’s written report was accepted as presented. Joan also distributed and summarized a report of visitor information by zip code and city.

Nominating – Marsha Bruhn reported that Nominating Committee Chair Colleen Dolan-Greene is preparing a report on terms of Board members.

OLD BUSINESS: Childcare –Sally Borden reported EMEAC has requested that the bride’s room be cleaned out so they may use it for weddings. This will coordinate well with our plan to use it for childcare on Sunday mornings.

NEW BUSINESS: Conversion Box for Phone Service – Glenn Maxwell’s proposal to move off of AT&T phone service to VoIP with our own equipment and service provider, at a savings of approximately \$840 per year, was presented. It was **moved by Sally Borden, seconded by Danny Rebb, to approve the proposal; approved.** Glenn will be advised so he may buy and install the new hardware, order and install the new VoIP service from PhonePower, test the new service with phone and fax, port our number, 313-833-9107, to the new service, and cancel the AT&T phone service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The board moved into Executive Session at 9:28pm and returned to regular business at 9:38pm.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens, Secretary