

MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave, Detroit, MI 48201
February 11, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 11, 2015. Present were Marsha Bruhn, President; Danny Rebb, Vice President; Sally Borden, Immediate Past President; Kathe Stevens, Secretary; Dan Wiest, Treasurer; Joel Batterman, Paul Chislett and Joan Smykowski, Trustees-at-Large; Rev. Roger Mohr, *Ex Officio*; and Committee Chairs Tim Bailey (Building & Grounds), Colleen Dolan-Greene (Centennial and Nominating), Robert Johnson and Kathleen Jacobs Johnson (Worship). Trustee Matt Friedrichs was excused. President Bruhn called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: It was **moved** by Paul Chislett, seconded by Danny Rebb, to adopt the agenda as presented; *approved*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed and reviewed, it was **moved** by Joan Smykowski, seconded by Sally Borden, to accept the minutes from the January 14, 2015 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; *approved*.

TREASURER: Bob Lauer reviewed the financial statements. After this year \$10,000 will be owed on prior liabilities (pension obligation and City taxes); about \$4800 has been paid. The treasurer position has not officially transitioned from Dan Wiest to Bob; a formal appointment will be needed when the transition is ready to be effected.

MINISTERS REPORT: There was no report from Rev. Mohr due to his late arrival at the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Marsha Bruhn summarized her written report. The Board and Minister have recognized some deficiencies and lack of process in the ministerial agreement and will incorporate UU Ministers Association recommendations in the content of the agreement. Further action deferred to the next board meeting. Our new office staff, Alexis Mitchell, is doing a good job but requires some unified oversight, which Kathe Stevens has volunteered to provide. The issue of the church's participation in Climate Justice Sunday will be referred to the appropriate committees for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds Committee – Tim Bailey reported that he has discovered leaks in the sanctuary and the boiler system, and a pump is not working properly. The boiler previously had to be replaced due to lack of maintenance. In addition, the wood of the exterior windows is rotting.

Canvass Committee – Kathe Stevens submitted a written report.

Centennial Committee – Colleen Dolan-Greene reported that the Committee would like guidance on the celebration of the centennial of the building's construction in April 2016. Further discussion deferred to the board next meeting.

Child Care – Sally Borden reported that work on the Bride's Room continues. Kathe Stevens reported that First Advantage has not yet approved our background check application.

Communications Committee – Dan Secrest submitted a written report.

EMEAC Liaison – Marsha Bruhn reported that EMEAC Acting Board President Victor Arbulu has requested that the First UU Board submit the names of three individuals to EMEAC to be the Church’s representative on the Board.

Finance Committee – Dan Wiest reported that the Committee’s last meeting focused on budgeting and forecasting. The Committee has requested budgets from various committees. It has not yet discussed dues to UUA or MidAmerica.

Membership Committee – Joan Smykowski submitted a written report. With the recent resignation of two members, our official census is at 94 members.

Nominating Committee – Colleen Dolan-Greene reported that the Nominating Committee would benefit from a board member job description; which she will need by the March board meeting.

Planning Committee – Deanna McGraw submitted a written report.

Policy & Procedures *Ad Hoc* Committee – Deanna McGraw submitted a written report.

Social Justice Committee – Joel Batterman reported that the Committee will be hosting a screening of the Viola Liuzzo documentary “Home of the Brave” on Wednesday, March 25, the 50th anniversary of Liuzzo’s murder. It will be publicized to the regional Unitarian and Wayne State communities.

Welcoming Task Force – the co-leaders submitted a written report.

Worship Committee – Danny Rebb submitted a written report.

Young Adults – Joel Batterman submitted a written report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Separation of Outreach Committee – Danny Rebb reported that the Outreach Committee is being reconstituted. A consensus approved the new committee.

Appointment of a Committee on Ministry – Rev. Mohr reported that the Committee on Ministry will deal with the larger ministry of the Church. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Paul Chislett, to approve the appointment of Mary Lou Malone, Danny Rebb, and Nancy Owen Nelson to two-year terms on the Committee on Ministry; **approved** with one abstention (Danny Rebb).

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Honoraria – it was the consensus of the board to approve honoraria of \$100 each for the three requested speakers, Satori Shakoor, Kevin Szwala and Ken Mogill.

By-Law Revisions – Colleen Dolan-Greene reported that there is a discrepancy in the current by-laws on term limits as well as on the election versus appointment of the secretary and the treasurer. Revisions must be approved by the board by the March meeting. The revisions must be approved by the Board at its March meeting, in order for information to appear in the April newsletter. Kathe Stevens will prepare the revisions for discussion.

Congregational Meetings – After discussion it was the consensus of the board that the by-law revisions could be passed at the beginning of the May 17 meeting and then the board slate could be approved under the newly passed by-law revisions.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary