

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

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on March 11, 2015. Present were Marsha Bruhn, President; Danny Rebb, Vice President; Sally Borden, Immediate Past President; Kathe Stevens, Secretary; Bob Lauer, Incoming Treasurer; Dan Wiest, Treasurer; Paul Chislett, Matt Friedrichs and Joan Smykowski, Trustees-at-Large; Rev. Roger Mohr, *Ex Officio*; and Committee Chairs Tim Bailey (Building & Grounds), Robert Johnson and Kathleen Jacobs Johnson (Worship), and Aletha Oberdier (Young Adults). Trustee Joel Batterman was excused. President Bruhn called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: It was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Joan Smykowski, to adopt the agenda as presented; *approved*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed and reviewed, it was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Sally Borden, to accept the minutes from the February 11, 2015 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; *approved*.

MINISTERS REPORT: Rev. Mohr commented on details surrounding his resignation, noting that the board must put together a plan to address the arrearages owed him for his 401k. The board wished Rev. Mohr well and he then excused himself.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Marsha Bruhn summarized her written report. After discussion, it was the consensus of the board that our office administrator, Alexis Mitchell, may change her hours to work from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM on the first and third Sundays of the month, returning at 1:30 PM that same day to close the church. Alexis will work on the Order of Service from home as well as parts of the newsletter. These hours will be revisited if the schedule becomes unworkable.

TREASURER: Bob Lauer reviewed Operating Budget FYE 06/30/2015, specifically outlining four options for 2015-16 worship services. It was the consensus of the committee to use the option for a full-time interim minister in the canvass brochure.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds Committee – no report.

Canvass Committee – Kathe Stevens submitted a written report.

Centennial Committee – no report.

Child Care – no report.

Communications Committee – Dan Secrest submitted a written report. The consensus was that the request for approval of a procedure to publicize church events was complicated to coordinate. Kathe Stevens will interface with Dan to take the next step; action was deferred to the next meeting. The board expressed its appreciation for Dan's efforts.

EMEAC Liaison – Three names were agreed upon by the board as potential liaisons to the EMEAC board. Marsha Bruhn will contact the three candidates. The matter was deferred to next month.

Finance Committee – no report.

Membership Committee – no report.

Nominating Committee – no report.

Planning Committee – Deanna McGraw submitted a written report.

Policy & Procedures *Ad Hoc* Committee – Deanna McGraw submitted a written report. The list of responsibilities for committees was discussed but it was agreed more information was needed; deferred to next month.

Social Justice Committee – Joel Batterman submitted a written report.

Welcoming Task Force – the Co-Leaders submitted a written report. After discussion, it was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Matt Friedrichs, to take a special collection for the March 29 service, with half the proceeds going to the National Marriage Challenge, an accredited 501(c)(3), and half to First UU; *approved*.

Worship Committee – Danny Rebb submitted a written report.

Young Adults – Aletha Oberdier advised that the Young Adults have agreed to organize the UU regional picnic again this year.

Sermon Schedule May-July – Danny Rebb summarized his written report. It was the consensus of the board that it is appropriate for Julie Brock to handle pulpit duties three to four times. The board expressed its appreciation to Julie for the offer of her services.

OLD BUSINESS:

EMEAC Representative – Marsha Bruhn submitted a written report based on her discussion with Bill McKnight.

By-Law Revisions – proposed amendments to the by-laws as approved on May 18, 2014 were presented and reviewed. It was **moved** by Sally Borden, seconded by Danny Rebb, to approve the following new amendments to the by-laws, to be presented to the congregation for vote at the May 17 annual congregational meeting:

- Article II – change “Heartland District” to “MidAmerica Region”
- Article III, Sec. 2 – add “be elected to” before “represent First Unitarian-Universalist Church at the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly” and change “Heartland conferences” to “and regional and/or district assemblies”
- Article IV, Sec. 2(A) – delete “Secretary, Treasurer”
- Article IV, Sec. 2(E)(i) and (ii) –change subparagraphs (i) and (ii) to (a) and (b)
- Article V, Sec. 2 – change “the Annual Congregational Meeting” to “each Annual Congregational Meeting” and delete “every other year, and two (2) trustees are elected for one-year terms”

- Article VIII, Sec. 2(a)(iii) – delete “Secretary, Treasurer,” add “Unitarian Universalist Association” before “General Assembly, and change “Heartland District” to “MidAmerica Regional Assembly”
- Article IX – change subparagraph “e” to “d”

Approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Job Description – The draft job description was approved as presented.

Ann Arbor Church 150th Anniversary – it was agreed to send a congratulatory resolution to the Ann Arbor congregation on behalf of the First Church Detroit board. Dan Wiest and Kathe Stevens will draft the resolution and circulate it to the board for approval.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was agreed that the board needed to appoint an interim minister search committee in order to meet the April 15 application deadline. The board accepted the offers of Matt Friedrichs, Robert Johnson, Aletha Oberdier, Danny Rebb and Kathe Stevens as volunteers. It was suggested that Nathan Strickland be appointed as well.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary