

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave. at John R, Detroit, MI 48201
October 14, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on October 14, 2015. Present were Kathe Stevens, President; Marsha Bruhn, Immediate Past President; Danny Rebb, Secretary; Dan Wiest, Treasurer; Joel Batterman, Matt Friedrichs and Dave Vaillencourt, Trustees-at-Large; and guests Deanna McGraw and Joan Smykowski. Vice President Paul Chislett was excused. Trustee Sydney Schaaf was absent. President Kathe Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: It was **moved** by Marsha Bruhn, seconded by Joel Batterman, to adopt the agenda as presented; **approved**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting have been distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Dan Wiest, to accept the minutes from the September 9, 2015 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; **approved**.

COMMITTEE COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION:

No committee representatives had anything to report during this section of the meeting.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Murray advised he has preached his three most recent sermons in distinctive styles – social justice, academic, and personal narrative, the latter most being the most popular. He preached in different styles in order to help the congregation determine what kind of future settled minister they would want. He enjoyed being part of the congregational planning process this past month, both at the Worship Committee's annual retreat and at the Planning Committee's leadership retreat.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Kathe Stevens summarized her written report.

TREASURER: Dan Wiest reviewed *Operating Budget FYE 06/30/2015* and answered questions. It was **moved** by Matt Friedrichs, seconded by Marsha Bruhn, to adopt the report as presented; **approved**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds Committee – no report.

Care Committee – no report.

Centennial Committee – Committee member Kathe Stevens advised that the activities of the Centennial Committee now fall under the next Strategic Plan, since the Centennial was selected as a goal for 2016 at the leadership retreat.

Child Care – Committee chair Sally Borden submitted a written report. Kathe Stevens advised that child care was added to our website this past month by our webmaster, Dan Secrest.

Communications Committee – Committee chair Dan Secrest submitted a written monthly report as well as a written report regarding the committee's progress on using the UUA's WordPress template to redesign our website.

EMEAC Liaison – President Kathe Stevens advised EMEAC Liaison Lencha Acker reached out to the three new EMEAC co-directors.

Finance Committee – Treasurer Dan Wiest summarized his written report.

Fund Development – Committee chair Matt Friedrichs summarized his written report.

Membership Committee – Committee chair Joan Smykowski summarized her written report. Board Secretary Danny Rebb advised that we currently have 95 members and the master copy of the updated membership directory should be available to print after the next New Member Sunday.

Planning Committee – Committee chair Deanna McGraw summarized her written quarterly Strategic Plan progress report and summary report.

Policy & Procedures Ad Hoc Committee – Committee member Deanna McGraw submitted a written report and a policy template. Discussion was deferred until the New Business section of this meeting.

Social Justice Committee – Committee chair Joel Batterman advised the committee will be holding a forum on gentrification titled, “Making the Corridor Affordable For All” before the end of the current calendar year to meet an objective of the current strategic plan. A book discussion may be held prior to the event.

Welcoming Task Force – Committee co-chair Kathe Stevens summarized the committee’s final written report.

Worship Committee – Committee member Sally Borden submitted a written monthly report and committee co-chair Kathleen Jacobs Johnson submitted a written report regarding the committee’s annual retreat held on September 26, 2015.

Young Adults – Program lead Aletha Oberdier submitted a written report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Social Hour Coordinator – Matt Friedrichs volunteered to work with Tim Bailey to write a Social Hour Coordination procedure.

“**Share the Plate**” – It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Joel Batterman, to approve the Share the Plate Policy and Procedure drafts attached to this meeting’s agenda as discussed to include doing one single collection with the cash split 50 / 50; **approved**.

Ministerial Transition Team – Marsha Bruhn submitted a document regarding the details of what the Ministerial Transition Team will do and be. Board President Kathe Stevens will meet with Rev. Murray to consider potential members of the Ministerial Transition Team.

Settled Minister Search Committee – Board consensus was that the previous Interim Minister Search Committee should be reactivated to propose a list of possible Settled Search Committee members to the Nominating Committee, which will prepare a slate of candidates to be elected to the committee at the bi-annual congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 2015. Matt Friedrichs volunteered to work with the Finance Committee on preparing budget projections regarding a settled minister’s compensation after consultation with Rev. Lisa Presley regarding fair ministerial compensation levels.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bi-Annual Congregational Meeting – The bi-annual congregational meeting is scheduled to be held on potluck Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 1:00 PM. The agenda includes electing members to a Settled Search Committee, providing the congregation with a financial update, and presenting the 2016 Strategic Plan after it is approved at the November 2015 Board meeting.

Policy and Procedure Template – Planning Committee chair Deanna McGraw submitted the draft Policy and Procedure template attached to this meeting's agenda for the Board's consideration. It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Joel Batterman, to approve the Policy and Procedure Template as presented; **approved**.

Congratulatory Letter – President Kathe Stevens drafted a letter to Rev. Alex Riegel congratulating him on his installation as minister of Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church and presented it to Board members for their signatures.

Ramp Access to Sanctuary – Glenn Maxwell submitted a written summary regarding permanent ramp access to the sanctuary. This project is in its initial brainstorming phase; no Board action is required at this time.

Proceeds from Hymnal Fundraiser – It was consensus of the Board that the leftover funds from the Singing the Journey fundraiser be used to purchase additional copies of the hymnal. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Joel Batterman, to put these funds into the Organ Fund if the ad hoc hymnal fundraiser committee's opinion is that no additional hymnal copies are required; **approved**.

Interweave – Nathan Strickland Jr. submitted a request for funds to be used to start an Interweave chapter at 1st UU Detroit. It was **moved** by Marsha Bruhn, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to allocate \$150.00 for the purpose; **approved**.

Request for Sponsorship – Julie Brock submitted a request that 1st UU Detroit be her sponsoring congregation to the UUA's Ministerial Fellowship Committee. Per the form to be completed that was attached to this meeting's agenda: "Sponsorship of a candidate indicates confidence in the person's potential and suitability for UU ministry. The Ministerial Fellowship Committee and Professional Leadership Staff Group will regard congregational sponsorship as evidence that the person seeking fellowship is actively committed to Unitarian Universalism and the institutions which uphold our faith tradition." It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, that 1st UU Detroit become Julie Brock's sponsoring congregation; **approved**, with Trustee Joel Batterman abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on November 11, 2015 at the Whole Foods Community Room.