

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
December 9, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on December 9, 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; Reverend Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister; Joan Smykowski, guest. Trustee Sydney Schaaf was absent. President Kathe Stevens 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 Dan Wiest, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to adopt the agenda as presented; **approved**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Marsha Bruhn, to accept the minutes from the November 11, 2015 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; **approved**.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Murray advised he introduced himself to EMEAC's Board members via email. He commended everyone on our hospitality to the community during Noel Night. He additionally advised that Rabbi Dorit Edut of the Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network (DION) has rescheduled DION's interfaith event being held in the sanctuary to Sunday, January 17, 2016 from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Rev. Murray commented that he is really enjoying his time here at 1st UU Detroit and feels excited yet bitter sweet about us starting the settled minister search process.

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

TREASURER: Dan Wiest reviewed *Operating Budget FYE 06/30/2015* and answered questions. Re. Murray advised the Board of his desire to remain a regular employee with his income reported via a W2 rather than become a contract employee. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Danny Rebb to donate \$100.00 to EMEAC as a contribution to their 100 – 100 – 100 fundraiser; **approved**. It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Joel Batterman to spend \$350.00 to purchase a pine tree and greens to decorate the sanctuary; **approved**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds Committee – Joan Smykowski advised that Tim Bailey secured volunteers and led an outside cleanup event the day of Noel Night.

Care Committee – no report.

Centennial Committee – Rev. Murray advised that his sermon on January 3, 2016 will launch our centennial year. Danny Rebb advised that his January 24, 2016 sermon will be on the subject of the book, "Did Jesus Mean It?", published in 1922 by one of our previous Universalist ministers, Rev. Dr. Frank Durward Adams.

Child Care – no report.

Communications Committee – Committee chair Dan Secrest submitted a written report.

EMEAC Liaison – no report.

Finance Committee – Dan Wiest advised he is currently working on revising finance related policies as well as the financial update to be presented at the special congregational meeting on Sunday, December 13, 2015.

Fund Development – Committee chair Matt Friedrichs advised that preliminary results show the coffee house fundraiser held on Noel Night was wildly successful.

Membership Committee – Joan Smykowski advised the committee will be making procedural changes in 2016 based on the UUA's "Welcoming the Stranger" webinar. Name tags will be updated in early 2016. She also advised that she heard good feedback regarding the committee's presentation of "Good Egg" awards. Joan requested that before a congregant decides to add additional jobs or responsibilities to the Membership Committee that they contact the committee prior to doing so. Joan additionally advised that \$44.00 (\$11.00 per day from December 21 through December 24, 2015) of the committee's current budget will be spent on a Face Book advertisement promoting our Christmas Eve service within a 50 mile radius of our sanctuary.

Planning Committee – Danny Rebb advised the Board approved 2016 Strategic Plan will be presented at the December 13, 2015 special congregational meeting. The final 2015 Strategic Plan report will be presented to the Board at its January meeting.

Policy & Procedures Ad Hoc Committee – Danny Rebb advised that policies and procedures are currently in the hands of those who are reviewing them and committee chair Deanna McGraw is hoping to have them returned to her in December so they may be presented to the Board at its January meeting.

Social Justice Committee – Committee chair Joel Batterman summarized his written report.

Worship Committee – Committee member Sally Borden submitted a written report.

Young Adults – no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Social Hour Coordinator – Omar is currently training to be our back up Social Hour Coordinator, to work on Sundays when Alyssa is off.

Settled Minister Search Committee – Marsha Bruhn advised that the slate of Settled Search Committee members to be presented to the congregation at the December 13, 2015 special congregational meeting consists of Lencha Acker, Robert Johnson, Deanna McGraw, Bill McKnight, Sharon Mills, Aletha Oberdier, and Joan Smykowski. Marsha also advised that a short bio of each potential committee member will be presented to the congregation at the meeting. Rev. Murray recommended including photos of each person.

NEW BUSINESS:

Disruptive Visitors: Board consensus is that if a visitor becomes disruptive the police should be called and the person be reported as trespassing.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on January 13, 2016 at the Whole Foods Community Room.