

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  
November 10, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on November 10, 2016. Present were Kathe Stevens, President; Dan Wiest, Vice President; Danny Rebb, Secretary; Robert Lauer, Treasurer; Marsha Bruhn, Immediate Past President; Sydney Schaaf, and Dave Vaillencourt, Trustees-at-Large; Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister; and Deanna McGraw, guest. Trustees Dan Hale and Nathan Strickland, Jr. were excused. President Kathe Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Danny Rebb, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to accept the minutes from the October 20, 2016 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; **approved**.

**MINISTER'S REPORT:** Reverend Murray advised that due to the results of the recent election, he may adjust or change his sermon topics based on his perceived needs of the congregation.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Kathe Stevens summarized her written report and answered questions.

**TREASURER:** Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations for the Month Ending 10/31/2016*, and answered questions.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no reports from: Building and Grounds, Child Care, Communications, Membership, Planning, Social Justice Committees, EMEAC Liaison, or Young Adults Program.

**Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee** – A draft copy of the proposed bylaw changes was distributed to members of the Board for their review prior to this meeting. Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee member Deanna McGraw led a discussion regarding the proposed changes and answered questions, with suggestions for content changes being offered by the Board. These suggestions were noted to be taken back to the committee for review. The final version of the proposed bylaw changes will be presented to the congregation at the bi-annual meeting in December for approval.

**Care Committee** – Committee Chair Nancy Owen Nelson submitted a written report.

**Finance Committee** – Bob Lauer advised that we received a final balance owed from TIAA concerning the balance on Rev. Mohr's retirement package and have paid the amount in full. Bob further advised that the first monthly Share the Plate Collection will be taken on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with Zaman International being the beneficiary that day. The Finance Committee has taken responsibility of determining the organizations which UU Detroit will share the plate with and will bring their names to the Board for approval on a monthly basis.

**Settled Minister Search Committee** – Deanna McGraw, chair of the SMSC, submitted a written report. The Congregational Survey has been completed with 75 participants. The results will be available by the end of October and distributed to the Board and congregation through the UU Detroit web site. The Committee is putting the final touches on its recruitment plan and preparing the interview process, with a plan to start recruitment in early January 2017.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Migration of Website:** Sydney Schaaf reported on progress for the architecture and migration of the new website. Sydney and Aletha Oberdier are continuing to populate the new website with finished content so that it will be ready to launch by the Settled Minister Search Committee's timeline of January 2017.

**Lease of Spaces in Prentis Lot:** Kelsey Von Wormer, owner of the apartment building at 437 W. Forest Avenue, submitted a written report requesting rental of two spaces from the 20 spaces along the alley in the Prentis lot, for overflow parking for her tenants. This agenda item was tabled until the December Board meeting since Bob Lauer had posed questions to Ms. Von Wormer and had not received a response to his inquiry.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**December Congregational Meeting:** After discussion, Board consensus was that this meeting will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall.

**Noel Night:** Noel Night is scheduled for the evening of Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 and UU Detroit has committed to operating the Common Grounds Café again this year. The project lead person for the café is yet to be determined.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Office Computer:** Dan Wiest advised that a new computer was purchased to replace the computer previously used in UU Detroit's office.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

*The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at the Whole Foods Community Room.*