

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 15, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on December 15, 2016. Present were Kathe Stevens, President; Dan Wiest, Vice President; Danny Rebb, Secretary; Robert Lauer, Treasurer; Dan Hale, Nathan Strickland, Jr., Sydney Schaaf, and Dave Vaillencourt, Trustees-at-Large; Immediate Past President Marsha Bruhn was 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 Dan Wiest, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to accept the minutes from the November 10, 2016 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented with the Treasurer's Report section being changed to read that Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations for the month ending 10/31/2016*; **approved**.

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

**TREASURER:** Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations for the month ending 11/30/2016*, and answered questions.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

There were no reports from: Building and Grounds, Care, Child Care, 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.

**Communications Committee** – Committee Chair Dan Secrest submitted a written report. Kudos to Glenn Maxwell for installing and configuring our new office computer as well as for resolving our VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telephone issues.

**Finance Committee** – Bob Lauer advised that the next monthly Share the Plate Collection will be taken on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with Freedom House being the beneficiary that day and submitted the related Share the Plate Nomination Form.

**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 from the November Board meeting since Bob Lauer had posed questions to Ms. Von Wormer and had not received a response to his inquiry. Since no response was ever given, Board consensus is that we will not enter into a lease agreement with her.

**December Congregational Meeting:** Board members reviewed the agenda of the December Congregational Meeting, to be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 12:30 pm in the Social Hall.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**2017 Strategic Plan:** The 2017 Strategic Plan was distributed to members of the Board for review prior to this meeting. After discussion, it was **moved** by Bob Lauer, seconded by Nathan Strickland, Jr., to approve the 2017 UU Detroit Strategic Plan as discussed; **approved**.

**Gift for Staff:** After discussion, it was **moved** by Dan Hale, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, give the amount of one month's salary to a UU Detroit staff member; **approved**.

**EMEAC Questions:** Questions from EMEAC were presented and the UU Detroit's Governing Board is considering what actions to take in response.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business transacted at this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:10 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.*