

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
February 9th, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on February 9, 2017. Present were Kathe Stevens, President; Dan Wiest, Vice President; Marsha Bruhn, Immediate Past President; Danny Rebb, Secretary; Robert Lauer, Treasurer; Sydney Schaaf and Dave Vaillencourt Trustees-at-Large; Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister. Guests present were Sally Borden and Richard Hillier, UU Detroit Congregants; Fred Vitale, EMEAC Board President; Dr. Gloria House, EMEAC Board Member; Darryl Jordan and Siwatu Salama Ra, EMEAC Staff. Trustees Dan Hale and Nathan Strickland, Jr. were excused. President Kathe Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

Joint EMEAC and UU Detroit Board Member's Discussion: Representatives from East Michigan Environmental Action Council present advised that their organization is in a precarious financial position and informed UU Detroit's governing Board that placing the buildings on the real estate market is a possible solution to this issue. Darryl Jordan presented a document listing EMEAC's minimum ongoing monthly expenses. All present brainstormed on possible alternatives to selling the property. Fred Vitale asked UU Detroit's Board for names and contact information of realtors and real estate developers. Marsha Bruhn volunteered to follow up with him regarding his request.

Our EMEAC guests excused themselves from the meeting at 8:03 P.M. Sally Borden and Richard Hillier joined the meeting at that time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Dave Vaillencourt, seconded by Dan Wiest, to accept the minutes from the January 12, 2017 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as corrected to show that the motion for the gift to staff was seconded by Dan Hale; **approved**.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Murray advised that he is looking forward to being back in our pulpit after having been away for the past three weeks.

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

TREASURER: Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations for the month ending 1/31/2017*, and answered questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no reports from: Building and Grounds, Care, Finance, Settled Minister Search Committees, Share the Plate ad hoc Committee, EMEAC Liaison, or Young Adults Program.

Child Care Committee – Committee Chair Sally Borden submitted a written report.

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

Finance Committee – After discussion, Board consensus was that the monetary donations received by UU Detroit as gifts in honor of Julie Brock and Joel Batterman's wedding be

invested with the Church Trust. The annual budget workshop for members of the Board and finance Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. at 1300 Lafayette in Detroit.

Membership Committee – Committee Chair Dessa Cosma submitted a written report.

Social Justice Committee – Committee member Regina Weiss submitted a written report.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Migration of Website – Sydney Schaaf advised that the migration of UU Detroit's website is complete. Maintenance procedures for www.uudetroit.org remain to be established. Our new URL is currently non-searchable via Google. Searching on Unitarian Universalist Detroit still points users to our old website's address at www.1stuu.org. This issue also remains to be addressed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Child Care Proposal – The Child Care Committee submitted a written proposal to hire someone to work as a child care provider each week for two hours from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. at the rate of \$12.50 per hour. Committee members Sally Borden and Richard Hillier were present to answer questions. After discussion, it was **moved** by, Marsha Bruhn, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to begin the search for a child care worker as requested by the Child care Committee and to fund the position through the end of the current fiscal year on June 30, 2017; **approved**.

Cantor Position - Todd Ballou, UU Detroit Music Director, submitted a proposal and contract to the Board prior to this meeting at the Worship Committee's recommendation to hire Gwenn Foss in the capacity of Cantor for the remainder of the current church year. Board consensus was not to approve the creation of the Cantor position at this time.

Final Report 2016 Strategic Plan - After discussion, it was **moved** by Marsha Bruhn, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to approve the final report of the 2016 Strategic Plan as presented; **approved**.

UUA Declaration of Conscience – After discussion, it was **moved** by Marsha Bruhn, seconded by Dave Vaillencourt, to approve that Governing Board President Kathe Stevens sign the Unitarian Universalist Association / Unitarian Universalist Service Committee joint Declaration of Conscience in the name of UU Detroit; **approved**.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no additional other business transacted at this meeting of UU Detroit's Governing Board.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at the Whole Foods Community Room.