

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
September 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on September 14, 2017. Present were Dan Hale, President; Nathan Strickland, Jr., Vice President; Kathe Stevens, Immediate Past President; Robert Lauer, Treasurer; Maysel Brooks, Joel Fortgang and Dan Wiest, Trustees-at-Large; and The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister. Secretary Danny Rebb and Trustee Dan Secrest were excused. President Dan Hale called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Noting that there were no minutes from the August 10, 2017 meeting because there was no quorum, Dan Hale called for approval of the minutes of the previous two meetings. The minutes from the June 8 and July 13, 2017 board meetings were distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Nathan Strickland, to accept the minutes from the June 8, 2017 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as submitted; **approved**. It was **moved** by Nathan Strickland, seconded by Dan Wiest, to accept the minutes from the July 13, 2017 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as submitted; **approved**.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Murray reported on outside meetings and pastoral care visits as well as church meetings.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dan Hale complimented Dan Wiest for another successful Dally in the Alley and thanked him for setting up and staffing the UU Detroit table. Dan Hale also reported on discussions held at a September 11, 2017 What Now? Committee meeting. The What Now? Committee is comprised of Rev. Murray, Dan Hale, Kathe Stevens, Dan Wiest, Marsha Bruhn, and Dessa Cosma and is exploring options regarding our presence in the building and the possibility of a move.

TREASURER: Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations: Actual v Budget FYE 06-30-2018 and Balance Sheet as of August 31, 2017*, and answered questions. The Prentis lot payment is late; Bob will reach out to find out what happened. When it comes in we will break even for the month. It was noted that pledges that came in after the May 21, 2017 Congregational approval of the budget have put expected revenues at \$92,595 instead of \$87,057; the budget forecast a year-end shortfall of \$3,000 but the expectation now is to have a \$1,000 surplus.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no reports from the Care, Child Care, or Planning Committees, the EMEAC Liaison, or the Young Adults.

Buildings and Grounds – Dan Wiest reported that more volunteers are needed for the September 16 church clean-up. Donations have been offered to pay for the yard work done by the young men whom Tim Bailey sponsors. The payment was made for the patching job on the roof. Dan Wiest will ask Tim Bailey if he has gotten an estimate on the repairs for the sanctuary windows.

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

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

Worship Committee – Committee member Mary Lou Malone submitted a written report on the August 12, 2017 Worship Committee retreat.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee Assignments – Dan Hale distributed a list of committees and chairs for review and board members volunteered to serve as liaison for some of the committees.

Directory – Deferred.

Strategic Plan – Deferred.

Leadership/Planning Retreat – Dan Hale distributed a draft outline for the September 30, 2017, leadership retreat. There are two goals: 1) committee structure and relationship of committees to the board and 2) review strategic plan and get issues out on the table.

Migration of Website – Deferred.

NEW BUSINESS:

D4 Letter of Support for Francis Grunow’s Grant Application – Dan Wiest and UU Detroit member Joel Batterman were recently approached by local activist and urban policy consultant, Francis Grunow, a consultant for Doing Development Differently in Detroit (D4), requesting a letter of support for D4’s grant application to the UU Fund for a Just Society, which gives grants for social justice activities around the country. D4 is a group that has tried to bring together labor unions and community groups in Detroit to promote community benefits agreements. In the wake of last year’s unsuccessful community benefits proposal, D4 is hoping to host a series of conversations between labor and social justice groups, to build trust and increase collaboration. **Board consensus was that support is appropriate for the application.** A letter of support was signed by president Dan Hale on behalf of the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Amendment of Bylaws to Change Quorum Requirements – Joel Fortgang and Kathe Stevens suggested that the board consider amending the bylaws to change quorum requirements. At the May 21, 2017 congregational meeting, the bylaws were amended to change, among other things, the secretary and treasurer positions to non-voting positions, since the secretary and treasurer are appointed and not elected. Quorum requirements were not changed at that same time and we now have a quorum requirement of five out of seven votes. To be added to the October agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens on behalf of Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

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