

UUCGT Board of Trustees Minutes

August 15, 2017

President Karl Love convened the meeting at 5:30 PM. Board members: Karl Love, Tom Darton, Mike McDonald, Kay Sturgeon, Don Pyne, and Linda Fletcher were present. Laura Matchett was absent as she was on vacation.

Congregational members present were: Marilyn Mayo, Sandra McDonald, Max Old Bear, Barb Conley, Judith Halsted, Jane Watts, Pat Light, Karl Keinath, Mary Cheney, Mary Van Valin, Richard Miller, Hal Gurian, Lynnette Rhodes, and Rick Walter. Susan Sherman Office Administrator was also in attendance.

Tom Darton gave the opening reading from the grey hymnal, #637 “A Litany of Atonement”. The Board Covenant was read by the Board members.

The Agenda was approved with the addition of two items. Mike McDonald asked that we consider the approval of the UUA and UUSC Declaration of Conscience, and Karl added consideration of full staffing of committees.

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Kay and 2nd by Linda. The motion passed by voice vote.

Chava reported on the Breakthrough Congregations UUA program. She felt that as the only spiritual leader in the UUA who is from another tradition we would have a good chance to qualify, but as that the deadline for applying is September first we should wait for next year.

Chava reported that UUCGT is hosting the MUUSJN (Michigan UU Social Justice) retreat August 26, 2017 from 9 AM to 2 PM and that there is space for two Board Members to attend if they are interested.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of the letter of censure of Mary Van Valin. Karl made several points before asking for a motion. He asked that “we look for a way forward with forgiveness and open hearts” and that “we not dwell on Win/Lose questions”, and then asked Chava to comment. She spoke to the issue stating that she was open to one on one discussions with Mary and invited her to select a person of her choosing to participate. Tom made a motion to rescind the letter of censure of Mary, seconded by Mike. Discussion followed. Mary was asked to comment. She stated that she was open to conversations with Chava. The motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Tom seconded by Don to rescind the letter of censure of Richard. During discussion Richard stated that he did not feel a need to discuss any issues at this time, but that he was open to discussions with anyone at any time. The motion passed.

A recess was called by Karl at 6:21 PM. The meeting resumed at 6:30 PM

A discussion was held by the Board regarding vacancies on various committees. The Policy Committee needs one more member, Staff Recourses one more, Safe Congregations needs two, and Conflict Management needs all new members.

A date was set for the first study session of the Board September 11, 2017. A motion was made by Mike seconded by Linda that the topic be leadership ethics and the LDC members be invited to attend. The motion passed.

A motion was made to confirm that the congregation was in agreement with the UUA "Declaration of Conscience". After some discussion it was agreed that a vote of the congregation was needed to make that statement. The motion was withdrawn and a new motion stating that the Board of the UUCGT accepted the Declaration of Conscience was passed.

Mike offered to inform the UUA of our Board acceptance of the Declaration of Conscience.

Laura Matchett will do the opening reading at the September Board meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectively Submitted;

Donald Pyne Board Secretary