

UUCGT Board of Trustees Minute

March 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Karl Love, Board President at 5:35 PM. Other Board members present were; Rabbi Chava Bahle (ex-officio), Mike McDonald, Laura Matchett, Tom Darnton, Linda Fletcher and Kay Sturgeon. Don Pyne was absent. Congregants present were: Dave Halsted, Karl Keinath, Sarah Montgomery-Richards, Bill Scharf and Price Watts.

Opening words were shared by Tom Darnton from a book by Richard Wagamese

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Linda and seconded by Kay. The Motion passed.

The consent agenda was approved. The motion was made by Tom and seconded by Linda

The Board To Do List was reviewed by Mike.

Mike discussed the status of the Pledge Drive noting that approximately one third of pledges have been returned accounting for nearly one half of last year's dollar total. It is still too early to draw conclusions about the success of the Drive.

Sarah Montgomery-Richards, DLE presented her plan on how we orient our Sunday Services to include younger participants while reducing the number of RE classes on Sundays. There was much discussion about the plan. Sarah will engage a focus group of regularly attending families and get their input and opinions. In addition she will put write ups in the Beacon to make the broader congregation aware of the potential changes. Sarah will report back to the Board on these activities.

Kay proposed that the \$525 from endowment tagged for UUA activities be directed to a new restricted fund to pay an annual \$100 membership in the Michigan Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Fund (MUUSJF) with the balance available for use by our congregation's Social Witness programs. Mike seconded. The motion passed.

Karl proposed that we fill a vacancy on the Endowment Committee by appointing Price Watts to finish out Doug Wozniak's term. Motion to do so made by Linda, seconded by Tom and approved.

Kay proposed a policy change regarding contract employment of existing Congregation employees to perform tasks outside their normal duties. Mike seconded and motion passed.

Price Watts presented a proposal from Facilities to purchase a video system for the sanctuary that would be portable to use elsewhere in the building. Total cost of \$5,598. Linda moved we approve the proposal. Seconded by Laura and motion passed. Kay noted that funding will come from the Capital Improvement Reserve fund.

Karl presented the UUA Commission on Appraisal Survey. After discussion we agreed that UUCGT would not participate in the Survey.

Karl reported that Marcia Bellinger has requested that the Board grant her permission to officiate at the wedding of Adrean Mangiardi and Bridget Rae on 10/12/18. After some discussion, Kay moved to approve this request, Linda seconded and the request was approved. The Board asked Tom to draft a policy regarding approval of weddings at UUCGT for discussion at our 4/16/18 meeting. Don Pyne will draft a letter from the Board to Marcia indicating our approval for her to officiate at this specific wedding.

Karl asked Dave Halsted and the Facilities Committee to look into the number and location of handicap spaces in our parking lot and make a recommendation at a future date.

Tom reported that the Policy Committee continues its work on reorganizing and revising the Policy Manual to be both Policies and Procedures. They are making major progress on a large undertaking.

Karl reported that Staff Resources is working on the Senior Spiritual Leader evaluation, working on a better job description for our Music Director leading to a contract by 6/30/18, and in early stages of working on DLE job description, position evaluation and ultimately a contract.

Public comment:

Price Watts suggested that Sarah should get child opinions on proposed RE changes in addition to parents.

Karl Keinath shared an idea from another UU congregation of having a “Prayscape” in one corner of the Sanctuary where children could draw and play during the Service.

Chava shared a Native American prayer as closing words.

The meeting was adjourned around 7:20 PM.

Next meetings: Election Slate Meeting, April 9 @ 5:30 pm with Joe Cook, LDC Chair.
Regular Board Meeting, April 16 @ 5:30 pm. Possible Budget Review Meeting, April 30 @ 5:30 pm

Linda Fletcher will do Opening Words for April 16 meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McDonald, Acting Secretary