

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 9, 2014**

**Present:** Board members Laureen Blakemore, Linda Powers, Margo Walter, Ann Norris Bill Baker, Beth Lyman; ex officio member Karen Hager; UUC member Isabel Berney

Laureen provided the reading and Margo lit the chalice. We voted not to read the covenant at every meeting but to read it once a quarter or less during the year. Because Linda is taking the minutes, Laureen served as Process Observer. We then checked in.

I. **Agenda** – Laureen moved to accept the amended agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. **Old Business**

- a. **Auction Update** – Margo and Linda reported that we have 4 auctioneers to date for the auction and will concentrate on activities that support the theme “Getting to Know YoUU”. Margo encouraged the Board to support the auction by providing items and volunteering.
- b. **Space Cadets** – Beth reported that the first meeting of this committee, which will analyze our building’s space needs, will be Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup>. A deadline of the November Board meeting was given to the committee for it’s recommendations.
- c. **Soup and Scoop** – No one volunteered to spearhead this activity so it has been tabled. Karen Hager suggested Marilyn DuPont might be interested in getting this started.
- d. **Strategic Planning** – Frank DuPont will chair the Strategic Planning Committee temporarily but we need a permanent chair for this committee.
- e. **Newsletter Finance Update/The Challenge** – Margo thanked Linda for putting in brief financial updates in the newsletter and reminded the Board of the challenge to find people to give the book “Love Reaches Out”; The UU Pocket Guide. Currently several of the Board members are in the process of reading the book themselves.
- f. **How the Congregation Works** - Margo read out the assignments of councils to Board members. They are:
  - f.i. Margo Walter – Facilities
  - f.ii. Laureen Blakemore – Governance
  - f.iii. Molly Lazar – Connections
  - f.iv. Linda Powers – Finance/Administration
  - f.v. Bill Baker – Pastoral Care
  - f.vi. Beth Lyman – Lifespan Faith Development
  - f.vii. Ann Norris – Social Justice
  - f.viii. Tim Pickering – Worship

We discussed whether terms for liaisons to these councils should be one or two years. No decision was made but there seemed to be more support for two year terms. Ann Norris has revised the chart of the councils and provided a draft for any corrections or changes.

Lastly, we suggested that councils should meet between 2 – 4 times per year or as necessary.

- III. **Staff Reports** – Since Karen was the only staff member present, the DLFD report was the only one given. Karen reported on the start of RE and the Harry Potter theme for the year. She passed out a list of Social Action projects that would be worked into the curriculum and reported that she used the postal service to send out letters and postcards to the prospective children in place of emails to ensure better registration results.
- IV. **Consent Agenda** – Lauren moved to accept the minutes from July. The motion carried unanimously.
- V. **Treasurer’s Report** – Linda reported that all is well with the finances to date. She is still trying to set up a retirement account for Rev Dara. She also mentioned that the Finance Committee needs a few more members.
- VI. **Members Forum** – No one spoke during this time.
- VII. **Council Reports** – The only report was from Isabel Berney chair of the Connections Council. She related that they were going to try to restart circle suppers, looking into using fair trade coffee after the service, trying to connect with area universities, and that the potluck committee is looking into buying lunch sized plates for the UUC.
- VIII. **Action Items**
  - a. **2014/15 Board Objectives** – Margo asked the Board to consider the following questions:
    - a.i. What specific objective would you like to see our Board achieve this year?
    - a.ii. You would consider the Board to be successful if we accomplished what?
    - a.iii. What are we missing?We spent about 20 minutes suggesting specific objectives that were listed and also which of these suggestions were actually Board responsibilities. Beth Lyman will type them up and send them out to the Board.
  - b. **Governance Oversight Committee** – Because the Board had not seen the proposal for the charge of the new Governance Oversight Committee, it was decided that Margo would send it out and the Board would vote by email.
- IX. **New Business**
  - a. **Bored or Board Meetings** – Margo read a list of characteristics that would engage Board members
  - b. **Activity and Committees Tables on Sunday** – Bill Baker suggested that we have a sign up for committees (Activity Fair) once a month in Elarth Hall. Perhaps we could rotate the sign up among the councils so no one council would do it more than once a year.

- X. **Information Items**- We are on schedule with the timeline; Margo reminded the Board that we are to sit at individual tables for the Sept. 14 pot luck and be identified as Board members by wearing leis; and she reminded us that we have guest ministers this month: Rev. Marti Keller and Rev. Karen Day.
- XI. **Process Observer Report**- Other than one time when Lauren had to remind the Board to move on to the next item on the agenda, the meeting went well. We finished on time.
- XII. **Next Meeting Assignments** – The next meeting will be Tuesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Beth will provide the reading, Bill will provide refreshments, and Linda will be the Process Observer.

The meeting was adjourned

Linda Powers  
Treasurer

UUC BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
Tuesday, September 9, 2014, 6:00 pm

6:00 - 6:30	Power Church by Linda Powers	
6:30-6:45	Chalice Lighting & Reading- Lauren Reading of Board Covenant (every mtg.or not?)- Check-in Process Observer-	15 Minutes
6:45-6:50	Review and Accept Agenda	5 Minutes
6:50-7:10	Old Business Auction Update-August 31 meeting; Service Announcements Space Cadets-Members include Anna Lomascolo, Dick Luke, Kristine Reid, Beth Lyman who will meet Wed., Sept. 10, 7pm Soup and Scoop-communication &transparency (when,what, and who?) Strategic Planning- Frank and Victoria as co-chairs Newsletter-Finance Update: Thanks Linda! The Challenge-"Love Reaches Out": The UU Pocket Guide <b><u>How the Congregation Works</u></b> Board Liaisons and Assignment to Council (1 or 2 yrs.?) Council Chair-job description & make-up of Council	20 Minutes
7:10-7:15	DLFD's Reports	5 Minutes
7:15-7:20	Consent Agenda Previous Board Meeting Minutes Email Votes-Correction of making motion Library Collection Policy-passed Governance Oversight Comm.-passed	1-5 Minutes
7:20-7:30	Treasurer's Report	10 Minutes
7:30-7:45	Members Forum-Members are invited to address the Board. Please keep your comments to 3 minutes.	15 Minutes
7:45-7:55	Break and Refreshments-Ann	10 Minutes

Board Meeting (cont.)

7:55-8:05	10 Minutes
Council Reports	
Facilities Council	
Fellowship & Governance Council	
Finance & Administration Council	
Lifespan Faith Development Council	
**Membership Council-Isabel Berney	
Pastoral Service Council	
Social Action Council	
Worship Opportunities Council	

8:05-8:30	25 Minutes
Action Items	
2014/15 Board Objectives	

8:30-8:40	10 Minutes
New Business	
"Bored or Board Meetings?"	
Activity and Committee Tables on Sunday-Bill Baker	

8:40-8:50	10 Minutes
Information Items	
August Time Line check list	
September 14, Board Leis	
September Guest Ministers/Welcome Rev. Marti Keller and Rev. Karen Day	

8:50-8:55	5 Minutes
Process Observer Report	

8:55-9:00	5 Minutes
Next Meeting Assignments (October 14)	
Chalice Lighting and Reading-	
Refreshments-	
Process Observer-	

Adjourn Meeting

**Administrator's Report to the Board  
September 9, 2014**

**Committee meetings:** Attended Auction Committee meetings in both July and August and am working closely with the committee to make this a very successful auction. Many new and wonderful ideas are being implemented to encourage parents with children to attend and to encourage our youth to donate items. I hope that all Board members will both donate items and attend the auction.

**Sitters:** I hired one new sitter this past week who has been participating at UUC since February - Catherine Merritt, a senior at VT. I am scheduled to meet with one other potential sitter in mid-September. Although we already have 5 sitters, it has been difficult getting sitters for times other than Sunday mornings. Hopefully this will help.

**Vacation:** I am on vacation Sept. 4-14 but will be checking emails daily.

**Attendance chart** – [see file](#). One new family has begun attending services and other activities after learning about UUC at Steppin' Out. Interesting that this young couple both grew up in Blacksburg yet never heard of us until visiting our booth.

Thank you to Linda Powers for recording the minutes in my absence.

## **DLFD Report to the Board – September 2014**

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

### **Summer RE:**

- Average child attendance this summer: 14

### **Registration**

- Current CYRE: 96
- Expecting additional registrations on the first day of RE.

### **LFD Council**

- No activity this month.

### **Children's Religious Education Committee (CREC)**

- Registration to date:
  - 78 children are registered for RE
  - 20 youth are registered for MSYG
  - 9 children are registered to become Chalice Kids
  - 17 children are registered for Children's Choir
- Children's RE classes begin September 7. MSYG begins September 12.
- Monthly Harry Potter movie night will begin this month.
- Dumbledore's Army is fighting the Illiteracy Horcrux with a book drive to benefit the Friends of the Library's mini library program.
- I am meeting with the CST to discuss how they are willing to help Dumbledore's Army.

### **Youth Adult Committee (YAC)**

- Registration to date:
  - 15 youth are registered for YRUU
- YRUU has their kick-off meeting September 7 with a potluck for parents and youth.

### **Adult Religious Education Committee (AREC)**

- Registration to date:
  - Introduction to Unitarian Universalism: 10
  - Buddhist Voices in Unitarian Universalism: 21
  - Christian Voices in Unitarian Universalism: 13
  - Jewish Voices in Unitarian Universalism: - 16
  - Black Pioneers in a White Denomination: - 13
  - Coming Out in Faith: LGBTQ Voices in Unitarian Universalism: 13
  - Elite: Uncovering Classism in Unitarian Universalist History: 20
- Introduction to UU class begins this month.

### **OWL Committee (OWL)**

- Registration to date:
  - 12 children are registered for K-1 OWL
  - 6 children are registered for 4-5 OWL
  - 16 adults are already registered for Adult OWL.
- Adult OWL begins September 14.

### **Library Committee**

- Meets later this month.
- Committee will be offering books to the congregation that have been weeded from the collection.
- Committee plans to review two collections for possible donation to UUC later this month,

**DLFD**

- Training was conducted for teachers and advisors in August. Training is now complete for fall.
- Direct mail was sent to parents on class registration, and to adults confirming their registrations. Direct mail was also sent to the children.
- Set up registration and VolunteerSpot for the Children's Choir. I will be meeting with Ella and Pat Traynor this week to relay information and plan logistics.
- In Dara's absence, I will conduct Chalice Kids training at the end of September.