

Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2017

Present: Board members Tim Pickering, Bob Stimson, Bill Baker, Carol Kern, Molly Lazar, Bonnie Wall-Lievsay, Jennifer Mercier; incoming Board members Irene Peterson, Ellen Plummer, and Amy Pruden-Bagchi; guest: Walt Pirie

Carol lit the chalice, and Tim provided the opening reading. All checked in.

I. **Agenda** – The Board added several items to the agenda. Bonnie asked to add a discussion of leadership training to the agenda. Carol requested that the discussion of extra pledge money be deleted, since there was no extra pledge money. Bob moved to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

II. **Members Forum** – Walt Pirie came with a suggestion to increase Karen’s hours. He suggested that we make an additional request to the Congregation. Carol suggested that though this was a wonderful idea, as a policy Board we are trying to move away from designated giving for specific fundraising.

III. **Minister and staff reports** – attached.

IV. **Treasurer’s report**- Bill reported on the finances. We’re still ahead on income over expenses but he felt it was premature to decide on any excess income.

V. **Consent Agenda** – Tim moved to accept the minutes from May. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. **New Business** – Bonnie talked about sending people for leadership training, should think about it for \$1600 for two people.

The Board considered whether to recognize donors who donate beyond pledges. After discussion, the Board decided to discuss it with Stewardship and Pam or Don.

The Board discussed whether to accept the designated donation to increase Karen’s hours. Bonnie moved not to accept but to thank him for the generous offer. Bill and Bob abstained, but all others voted in favor of Bonnie’s motion.

VII. **Old Business** – Motion to approve the Bylaws as amended by the Congregation. Molly motioned to approve and it passed unanimously.

VIII. **UUA General Assembly** – The Board designated Tim Pickering, Carol Kern, and Molly Lazar to cast additional votes for the UUA President, as well as Ellen Plummer, who is attending as a GA delegate. Carol will ask George Lally if he would like to vote, as well.

IX. **Social Justice Model**—the Social Justice Committee has created a covenant together and has begun the work of creating a path forward during this summer. They will be meeting weekly with Don while he is still under contract.

X. **Board Development**-- Review of Board Goals. The Board discussed how we met these goals. Carol said that if we adopt the Gardiner model in the future, we should

have more education on these topics (as well as the process) before the vote. Communication remains a continual challenge. Reviewing our goals regularly would be a good idea, perhaps even putting it on our agenda.

XI. **Discussion of Webinar**— Four people attended the Board-related Webinar, Policy Governance 101. They found it valuable. One observation they made is that the Board's obligation is to serve our mission rather than individual congregants.

XII. **Upcoming events, volunteers for July**—set for July 13. Jennifer will bring a reading and Tim will bring snacks.

XIII. **Executive Session**—The Board entered Executive Session to discuss behavioral issues within the Congregation. The Board left Executive Session and adjourned at 10:14.

Action items:

-Carol will ask George Lally if he would like to vote for UUA President.

AGENDA ITEMS:

-The Board will discuss in the Fall whether they will acknowledge donations beyond pledges.

UUC BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Thursday June 15, 2017

7:00-7:15

Chalice Lighting & Reading
Welcome to new Board Members
Check-in

7:15- 7:20

Review and Accept Current Agenda
Proposed motion: Approve agenda

7:20-7:25

Member Forum

7:25-7:35

Minister and Staff Reports
Administrator's Reports
DLFD's Reports
Treasurer's Report

7:35-7:40

Consent Agenda and Old Business
Previous Board minutes for May—approve
Proposed Motion: Approve Minutes
Final Stewardship update

New Business

7:40-7:45

Discussion of recruitment of extra GA attendee/money budgeted to GA

7:45-7:55

Discuss of extra pledge money for 2017-2018 UUC Budget
Proposed Motion: Vote on where to designate extra money

7:55-8:10

Review of Congregational Meeting/Next steps for SJ model.

8:10-8:25

Break and Refreshments

8:25-8:40

Review of Board Goals for the year
Discussion of goals success and failures and next steps

8:40-9:00

Discuss Webinar:9 Commitments of Board

9:00-9:05

Select opening words volunteers for July
Reminders of upcoming events
Extinguish Chalice and Adjourn Meeting

Next meeting: Date to be determined by new board

Administrator's Report to the Board
June 8, 2017

General Assembly/Voting for new UUA President: The Board is being asked to select 4 additional delegates from UUC to represent our congregation in the vote for a new UUA president. These delegates are registered at no cost but will not be registered to vote on any other business at GA. To learn more about the upcoming election and the candidates themselves, go to <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/elections>. Once these delegates are selected, let me know the names as I will then register them with the UUA.

Rentals: Just FYI – the last few weeks have brought in almost \$500 in rental income. There were several piano recitals for very accomplished students, and all the families were so grateful to use our beautiful space and wonderful piano. There were also 2 big parties (graduation and retirement) which brought in over 100 people each. Again, the hosts loved our space and fortunately, left it cleaner than they found it. Hopefully they will spread the word about our building to bring more rentals our way.

New Website Update: The Communications Committee finally met and reviewed the site map for the new website. I will shortly meet with Kelly Eagan who has volunteered to create the blank pages for us. Karen Hager, Arthur Snoke, and myself will then begin to populate the pages, copying much of the information from our current website, updated of course.

Childcare staff: We have a new sitter, Miranda Jarrett, who comes with glowing references. She will begin working in the nursery in July.

Attendance/Members: See online Google Doc.

DLFD Report to the Board – June 2017

Submitted by Karen Hager, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

Registration

- Current CYRE: 127 (unique children/youth)
- Children & Youth UUC “slots”: 181

Here’s what’s happening this month:

- YRUU leaves June 7 for Boston. 12 youth and 4 adult chaperones are attending. There’s a very busy and fun schedule planned for the kids, with time each day devoted to learning more about UU History.
- I met with parents of rising 8th graders to discuss next year’s Coming of Age program. All 4 families wish to register their kids for COA. Because of the use of resources for a small group, we require parents to commit to attendance at all monthly classes. We will likely view 2017-18 as a second year test of using COA as the 8th grade RE program.
- Summer RE begins June 11. All teachers are recruited. It’s going to be a very fun curriculum! August is expected to be heavy attendance (for summer), as MCPS schools begin August 9 and our new settled minister will arrive.
- Fall recruitment: only 1 more Children’s RE teacher is needed, and 8-9 OWL teachers have been recruited. We will also need 1 new YRUU advisor (male); and a facilitator(s) and mentors for the Coming of Age program.
- Registration for fall classes will open June 5. I have completed the design and it’s all set to go.
- I am developing digital notebooks for both youth groups for fall, and for the CRE teachers. Through one link, they will have a searchable online resource for all information about their volunteer assignment. It will also be very easy to update and will insure that everyone always has access to the most current information.
- I will be spending a large portion of the summer working on a redo of the middle school *Building Bridges* curriculum. Although the current curriculum content is excellent, we found that it did not engage kids last time as it’s too heavy on lecture. It was also very difficult to teach, and some teachers were not able to deliver the material as well as others. As a result, attendance dropped in that class, and the trend has continued for these kids this year. The redo will incorporate video to present the main material, with the teacher facilitating the discussion. I am also planning to introduce a new activity using the video game Minecraft. I am calling this ChUUrchcraft; the class will begin with a previously designed empty building. As they learn about Judaism, they will design a room in the building as a place where that religion is practiced. At the end of the year, they will have created a UU congregation, where all religions can be practiced. The idea has been floated by 4 middle school youth and 4 have enthusiastically endorsed the idea. Now, fingers crossed I can pull it off!
- I will be taking June 5-11 as vacation, as well as July 15-23

Consulting

I will be at UUCR conducting a parent meeting on Sunday, June 4 to discuss the summer and fall programs. I will be moving on to training Alan Moore as the new DLFD.