

April 14, 2010

Minutes—First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit

Board of Trustees

Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held in Memorial Hall on April 14, 2010. Vice-President Bill McKnight called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Members In Attendance: Bill McKnight, Alma King, Alicia Biggers, Dessa Cosma, Elayne Sikelianos, Sally Borden, Linda Darga, Danny Rebb, Rev. Drew Johnston. Excused: Marilyn Mitchell.

Opening Thoughts: Rev. Drew Johnston. Poem by Alice Walker “Expect Nothing”

I. Consent Agenda

A. Officer Reports:

1. Alma King, Secretary. Minutes of March 10, 2010 Meeting. (Attached) Minutes of the Special meeting of March 31 (Attached) Motion to approve the minutes made by Sally. Seconded by Linda. Minutes were approved as presented.
2. Linda Darga, Treasurer and Rev. Johnston. See attached Reports. (1) Profit & Loss 01/01/10 to 04/14/10; (2) Balance sheet as of 04/14/10; (3) Profit & Loss 03/10. (4) (5) Income by Category Graphs; (6) (7) Expenses by Category Graphs. Payment of 35% of our dues has been paid to UUA. Pension shortfall for Rev. Drew has been paid for this year’s amount. A dollar amount for previous years still needs to be calculated.

B. Committee/Program Reports.

1. Worship; Social Justice (Alicia)
2. Motor City Pride; MI Summit: USSF. (Dessa)

C. Motion to approve of the consent agenda. Made by Sally. Seconded by Linda. **PASSED.**

II. Minister’s Report: Rev. Drew Johnston

- A. Canvass training on hold until it is clearer what path the Board will take and what canvassers can say to those being canvassed.
- B. Item for Annual Report: A professional treasurer needs to be employed to avoid problems of the past so that we don’t fall back into past accounting problems.
- C. Will stop coming to Board meetings, but will be on call during the meeting time.
- D. 1ST UU has systemic issues that require full participation in order for

these behaviors to be changed.

- E. Recent prospective buyer has backed out, but other possibilities . . .

1. ACTION ITEM: Turn part of 2nd floor (Church school rooms) into Dorm like setting. Motion: The Board authorizes a Task Force to gather data for this possibility. Initial info to be reported at May Board meeting. Members: Linda as Chairperson; Danny Rebb; Lee Gaddis. Motion made by Danny. Seconded by Sally. PASSED

- F. Of concern, individuals taking actions on behalf of the church on their own without approval or going through proper channels. One example is the recent MOSES ad paid for by contributions from individuals. Another is the disappearance of the “standing on the side of love” lawn sign from the church lawn. In addition, after discussion a reminder that the Board needs to set an example by using the Publicity and Budget Request Form when planning an event.

III. Old Business

- A. Arrangements for US Social Forum (Dessa). (1) Task Force has been meeting. (2) Use paid staff when possible to assist as they are accountable while volunteers are not. (3) Use of Memorial Hall for housing overnights. Board approved the use. 6 Yes; 1 No. PASSED
ACTION ITEM: Request that a small portion of money made will go for professional carpet cleaning of Memorial after the event.
- B. Canvass and Canvas Chair. Danny Rebb to have the Canvass in his portfolio and will contact Jan Thompson, Canvass Chair, to offer support.
- C. Portfolio Updates:
- 1. ACTION ITEM: Still need realignments. Some members have none; others more than one.**
 - Membership Portfolio report—Alma (Attached)
- D. Policy Governance Review from The Plan. (Alma) Handout to review aspects so it is followed because Board and Congregation have approved its use. Discussion. **ACTION ITEM: Motion to have people trained in the method with Alicia conducting a training for use of policies, portfolios, policy governance by May 1.** Moved by Danny; Seconded by Sally. PASSED
- E. Review of Board Covenant (Alma) Copies distributed as a reminder of its message and value.

IV. New Business

- A. Religious Leadership Planning Group (Sally). A group needed to meet to decide

April through June about what to do after June 30. (See B. below)

- B. Consideration of an Interim Minister. **ACTION ITEM: Motion: the Board will submit an application for an Interim minister for the next Church Year.** Moved by Alicia; seconded by Danny. Discussion. **PASSED.** 5 Yes; 1 No; 3 abstentions. Sally will call Boston for information and make the application. Will need some info from the previous Search Committee. Include ideas for what we are looking for in an interim.
- C. **ACTION ITEM: Volunteers (3) to work with brainstorming task force. Bill and Linda will attend the Ap. 18 initial meeting, 12:30—1:30. Discussion. (1) Who will chair? (2) Time frame to work in? (3) Group needs Charge from the Board. Discussion. Board Charge to the Task Force: Task Force is to consider what to do with our buildings to alleviate the financial burden. An initial report should be presented by the Annual Meeting. Use FFTF information. Reports are in Office and Bill has some of the information. Lee Gaddies agreed to be back up chair, if needed.**
- D. **ACTION ITEM: Annual Report due for Annual Meeting. What model to use? Follow examples of last year's based on Appreciative Inquiry model. Board members can work with committee chairs from their portfolio for reports. Refer to last year's report on the church web page. *Who will compile?***
- E. Alicia will forward the list for Welcoming Trustee for May, June after the next Worship Committee meeting.
- F. **Date for Annual Meeting: Sunday May 23**
- G. Added item: Request from JVP for space to have an exhibit. Referred to events Portfolio (Dessa)

Closing Thoughts:

Adjournment: 9:49 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Alma King, Board Secretary

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2010 7:00PM Memorial Hall

Attachments:

1. Agenda for April 14, 2010 Board of Trustees Meeting
2. Minutes: March 10, March 31 Board Meetings; March 28, Cong. Meeting
3. Treasurer/Financial Reports and graphs. (7 as listed under Treasurer's Report)
4. Report/Update: Pride; MI Summit; USSF (Dessa)
5. Worship and Social Justice (Alicia)
6. Portfolio Report—Membership (Alma)
7. Policy Governance/the Plan (Alma)
8. Board Covenant (Alma)
9. Request from JVP for use of building space for an exhibit.