

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
First Unitarian-Universalist Church
May 18, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The Annual Congregational Meeting of the First Unitarian Universalist Church was called to order by President Marsha Bruhn at 12:31 P.M. on May 18, 2014.

ROLL CALL/QUORUM: Board members present were Marsha Bruhn (President), Sally Borden (Immediate Past President), Danny Rebb (Vice-President), Kathe Stevens (Secretary), Dan Wiest (Treasurer), Matt Friedrichs, Sean McAde and Joan Smykowski (Trustees-at-Large). A quorum of congregational members was present.

Rev. Roger Mohr gave the invocation.

Marsha Bruhn introduced the agenda and advised that printed copies of the Annual Report were available to the Congregation at the meeting as well as online at First Church's website.

MINUTES: Kathe Stevens presented the minutes of the previous meeting which had been distributed during the meeting for review, advising that a new policy was to post the draft minutes on the First Church website for review by the Congregation prior to the meeting. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Sally Borden, to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2013 Annual Congregational Meeting as presented; **approved unanimously**.

BY-LAWS CHANGES: Joan Smykowski introduced the proposed changes to Article III, Sections 1 and 2 of the By-Laws of the First Unitarian Universalist Church, to change membership requirements, as follows (change redlined below):

"Section 1. Membership is open to all interested persons who: are at least sixteen (16) years old; sign the membership book; make a monetary pledge of support; and ~~or~~ make a financial contribution of record. We welcome all who are in general agreement with Unitarian Universalist principles and purposes without regard to considerations based on sex, sexual identity or orientation, race, ethnic identity or national origin, economic status or level of ability. No test of belief shall be imposed as a condition of membership."

Section 2. Sixty (60) days after signing the book and making a pledge of support ~~with~~ ~~or~~ a contribution of record, membership conveys the right to: vote at any congregational meeting; be elected as a member of the Board of Trustees or officer of the church; vote as a member of established committees; and to represent First Unitarian-Universalist Church at the Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly or Heartland conferences.

The change is intended to remove the requirement that (in addition to signing the membership book) to be a member one must sign a pledge form AND make a monetary contribution of record. In the revision, in order to be considered a member, a person who has signed the membership book then needs to make a contribution of record OR sign a pledge form.

It was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Sharlene Gage, to approve the by-laws revisions as presented; **approved unanimously**.

ELECTION: Lorenza Acker presented the ballot and reviewed the proposed slate:

Board President (1-year term): Marsha Bruhn (second term)

Board Vice-President (1-year term): Danny Rebb (second term)

Trustees-at-Large (2-year term): Joel Batterman, Paul Chislett

2015 Nominating Committee (three of whom have served in elective office): Lorenza Acker, Colleen Dolan-Greene, Rhonda Rogers, Elayne Sikelianos, Corinne Streicher

Delegate for the UUA General Assembly: Julie Brock

Delegates for the UUA MidAmerica Regional Assembly were nominated from the floor: Matt Friedrichs, Robert Johnson

Joel Batterman's name as UUA General Assembly delegate was withdrawn from the printed ballot. Seeing no nominations from the floor for the second UUA General Assembly delegate position, it was **moved** by Sherry Wells, seconded by Nancy Owen Nelson, to approve the slate by acclamation; **approved unanimously**.

It was then **moved** by Toni Tront, seconded by Glenn Maxwell, to allow the Nominating Committee to elect its own chair; **approved unanimously**.

BUDGET: Treasurer Dan Wiest reviewed the preliminary budget which was distributed to the Congregation, describing each line item under both income and expenses. After reviewing projected income for the 2014-15 fiscal year, Dan then reviewed the expense side of the budget, and then presented a detailed Worship Committee budget for the Congregation to review.

Sally Borden reminded the Congregation that the budget as presented was preliminary and was not being put to a vote. Marsha Bruhn noted the request from EMEAC to pay \$1,000 per month to lease the facilities; that is still in discussion, and new information will be shared as it becomes available.

Marsha Bruhn, noting that the budget was not ready to be approved, suggested that this meeting be recessed for four weeks in order to allow time for more pledges to be received and to realistically assess the total income. The Board will continue to work with the Finance Committee to bring a budget to the Congregation.

RECESS: It was **moved** by Sharon Mills, seconded by Danny Rebb, to recess the meeting to June 15, 2014; **approved unanimously**. The meeting was recessed at 1:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathe Stevens, Governing Board Secretary