

MINUTES  
Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit  
Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave, Detroit, MI 48201  
January 14, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER:** A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on January 14, 2015. Present were President, Marsha Bruhn; Vice President, Danny Rebb; Immediate Past President, Sally Borden; Secretary, Kathe Stevens; Treasurer, Dan Wiest; Trustees-at-Large, Joel Batterman, Matt Friedrichs and Joan Smykowski; and guest Tim Bailey (Building & Grounds Committee) and Sharon Mills (*Ad Hoc* Job Description Committee). Trustee Paul Chislett and Rev. Roger Mohr, *Ex Officio*, were excused. President Bruhn called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** It was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Matt Friedrichs, to adopt the agenda as presented; ***approved.***

**TREASURER:** Bob Lauer reviewed *Operating Budget FYE 06/30/2015*. Current operations year-to-date are a little ahead of budget; expenses are ahead also. The goal to pay off past liabilities means there may be a shortfall at fiscal year end. The T.C. Latham fund will be paid off. Budget will be met while aggressively paying down old liabilities. By the end of the year less will be owed on debt, the Church is on schedule to pay off past liabilities in a couple of years.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed and reviewed, it was **moved** by Kathe Stevens, seconded by Sally Borden, to accept the minutes from the December 10, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as presented; ***approved.***

**MINISTERS REPORT:** Rev. Mohr was absent due to the death of a family member and other personal stresses.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Marsha Bruhn summarized her written report. The EMEAC board meeting was cancelled because there was not a quorum; therefore, Bill McKnight continues to fill the liaison position. Marsha has asked Bill to provide regular reports. Pursuant to Marsha's request, Sharon Mills elaborated on the *Committee Chair Job Description Model* which Marsha had provided in her report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance** – Dan Wiest reported there was no formal meeting of the Committee in December, rather, there was an informal meeting to gather year end statements, etc.

**Worship** – Danny Rebb submitted a written report.

**Fund Development** – Matt Friedrichs distributed and summarized his written report. Joan Smykowski reported on the UU're Home B&B program; the Committee will take up questions posed by the Board.

**Buildings & Grounds** – Tim Bailey summarized his written report.

**Social Justice** – Joel Batterman summarized his written report, thanking the tabulators of the survey results. The results show the congregation is passionate about issues of equality. Survey results will be distributed via email and social media and in the February newsletter.

**Membership** – Joan Smykowski summarized her written report. Sally Borden volunteered to work with Nancy Owen Nelson to establish a caring committee.

**Welcoming Task Force** – Kathe Stevens submitted a written report.

**Planning** – Danny Rebb reported updates on behalf of Committee Chair Deanna McGraw.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Childcare** – Sally Borden reported that the \$8 fee for a background check has been donated by several volunteers. It is hoped that by mid-February the background checks will have been performed and the Child Care program will be ready to start.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointment of Two Background Checkers** – referring to 1<sup>st</sup> UU's adopted *Criminal Background Check Policies and Procedures* which had been distributed with the board packet, Kathe Stevens reported on the requirements to appoint two background checkers. It was **moved** by Sally Borden, seconded by Danny Rebb, to appoint Kathe Stevens and Joan Smykowski as persons qualified for reviewing criminal background transcripts and approving or denying placement; *approved*.

**Appointment of a Committee on Ministry** – Marsha Bruhn and Danny Rebb met with Rev. Mohr and discussed establishment of a Committee on Ministry, to consist of three or four members of the congregation who will support the minister and represent the congregation. The Committee will be established in consultation with Rev. Mohr after names are agreed for membership.

**Appointment of Committee Chairs** – Sharon Mills, representing the *Ad Hoc* Job Description Committee, reviewed its December 10, 2014 recommendations to the Board, which had been distributed in the board packet. It was **moved** by Matt Friedrichs, seconded by Joel Batterman, to accept the language as presented by the Committee in its recommendations; *approved*.

**Committee Coordination and Communication** – After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to implement the Planning Committee's recommendation that each Committee chair, or designate, shall attend board meetings.

**Separation of Outreach Committee** – tabled for Planning Committee to bring back information.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathe Stevens*, Governing Board Secretary