

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave., Detroit, MI 48201
October 12, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on October 12, 2017. Present were Dan Hale, President; Nathan Strickland, Jr., Vice President; Kathe Stevens, Immediate Past President; Robert Lauer, Treasurer; Maysel Brooks, Joel Fortgang, Dan Secrest, Dan Wiest, Trustees-at-Large; Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister. Danny Rebb, Secretary, was absent. President Dan Hale called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. There was a quorum of the Board

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed and reviewed. It was **moved** by Dan Wiest, seconded by Joel Fortgang, to accept the minutes from the September 14, 2017 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees as submitted; **approved**.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dan Hale reported that he has not yet been able to communicate with the EMEAC board regarding building issues. Kathe Stevens will contact EMEAC Liaison, Lencha Acker, to get an update. Any critical information obtained will be shared via conference call.

TREASURER: Bob Lauer reviewed *Statement of Operations FYE 6/30/2018*, and answered questions.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Rev. Murray reported on his involvement in weddings, memorial services, meetings, and pastoral care visits in the past month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- There were no reports from Building and Grounds, Care, Child Care, EMEAC Liaison, Planning, or Young Adults.
- Written reports from Communications, Membership, and Worship Committees were reviewed and discussed.
- Dan Hale noted that Dan Secrest is chair of the Planning Committee.
- Dan Secrest asked for time at an upcoming board meeting to talk about how we communicate. Nate Strickland volunteered to serve on the Communications Committee.
- Nate Strickland reported a heightened focus of the Social Justice Committee after a recent sermon regarding protest versus resistance, and outlined action steps being taken.
- Regarding an item in the Worship Committee report about UU Detroit political candidates appearing in the pulpit, Rev. Murray explained that the presentation

will not be a political forum or discussion, rather, it will be about the spiritual side of how the candidates' UU faith influenced their decision to go into public service.

OLD BUSINESS:

Directory — deferred to the November board meeting.

Migration of Website — webmaster Dan Secrest asked, what are goals and requirements for migrating www.1stuu.org to www.uudetroit.org? Further discussion deferred to the November board meeting. Joel Fortgang volunteered to work on the website with Dan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bylaw Changes — Dan Hale noted that there have been recent instances where we have not had a quorum for board meetings, and proposed two options. After discussion, it was decided that we would neither change the bylaws to make the secretary and treasurer positions elected nor to create a new quorum requirement. If it continues to be a problem, the issue will be revisited and may be placed on the agenda for the annual congregational meeting in May 2018.

Julie Brock Ordination — Nate Strickland explained that Julie Brock, who has completed the UUA requirements to be ordained as a UU minister, asks to be ordained at UU Detroit where she first found her spiritual connection with the world. It was **moved** by Dan Secrest, seconded by Joel Fortgang, to schedule a special congregational meeting on November 19, 2017, to call a vote to approve First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit's co-sponsorship, with Community Unitarian Universalists of Brighton, of the ordination of Julie Brock, and that, pending sponsorship approval by both congregations, \$1500 be budgeted for ordination expenses; **approved**.

Leadership retreat — Dan Hale circulated a written report. After review and discussion, Rev. Murray, Dan Secrest, Maysel Brooks, and Dan Wiest agreed to work with Dan Hale on the Special Activities Committee to plan for events such as Dally in the Alley, Noel Night, and the annual church picnic, as well as schedule regular discussions that would be attractive to members. The Special Activities Committee will work with the Social Justice Committee to identify social justice issues in the community on which the congregation might focus; to be discussed at the November board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathe Stevens, on behalf of Danny Rebb, Governing Board Secretary

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at the Whole Foods Community Room.

Other meetings are scheduled for December 14, 2017 and January 11, 2018.