

First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 13, 2006
6:30 pm

Board Members present: Jim Harvey, Dan Wiest, Colleen dolan-Greene, Alicia Biggers, Mary Lou Malone, Carolyn Ludwig, Linda Darga, Irene Schultz, Jim Brown, Lencha Acker, Donna Walker

Guests present: Kathe Stevens, Dan Kosmowski, Jonathan Schultz, Sr.

Meeting Minutes

3. Approval of Minutes

Alicia Biggers moved to approve the January, 2006 and the February, 2006 meeting minutes. Seconded by Jim Brown. Motion passed.

4. Future Facilities Task Force Report

Colleen gave report on the 3 hour Task Force meeting with Ed Lynn. She informed the Board that the Task Force members were unanimous on the priority to keep the Sanctuary. Extensive discussion followed in relation to proceeding to the next stage which involves the solicitation of realtors and architects who deal in church property. The expenses involved in the process were also discussed.

5. Financial Statement

Dan Wiest went over the Income and Expense Statement and Balance Sheet for February, 2006. He reported that all bills are paid, but for several months we have had a negative income, i.e. expenses were greater than income. Dan also discussed the need for an Audit. Colleen is going to do some fact-finding on the processes involved in an Audit. Dan stated that the cost of an Audit may range from \$7,000 to \$15,000.

6. Computer Purchase for Minister

The Board is exploring the options of buying a computer or refurbishing one that the Church may possibly acquire from U.U. Community Place.

7. Canvass Report

Mary Lou Malone gave update on the Canvass , stating that things were going well and the pledges to date reflected increases. She stated that 2 more canvassers were needed. She said the Canvass Dinner preparations are going well.

8. Excess Plate Collections

Dan Wiest made a motion that the plate collection for one Sunday each month be designated for a worthy cause. Mary Lou Malone seconded. Following discussion the motion passed. The Social Action Committee is to put a call out for members to attend a meeting to determine to whom the money will be designated.

9. Covenant Framing Committee Report

Lencha Acker gave report that the Committee met and are close to being ready to draft a covenant. Lencha stated that Rev. Diana said that once the Committee shows a readiness to deal with various issues of conflict the Church can work with trained facilitators on the subject. It is planned to have a draft in place by 3-26-06.

10. Moderator's Report

Discussion on the written report centered on paragraph 3, which deals with the selling of items at Church by individuals. Following discussion on the Church's tax-exempt status, etc. it was determined that more investigation is needed. It was also determined that requests to sell items shall be declined at the present time.

Moderator Jim Harvey further reported that progress is being made in implementing The Safe Congregations policy.

11. Motion to Approve Expenditures for Consultant Edwin Lynn

Colleen moved to have Board approve expenditures incurred so far by Rev. Ed Lynn. Seconded by Mary Lou. Linda Darga requested that expenditures be approved ahead of Ed Lynn's visits. Board confirmed the need to pre-approve expenses in the future. Alicia discussed the possibility of electronic voting for such pre-approvals in the future. Motion passed.

12. Building and Grounds Committee Report

Mary Lou said a men's group called **The New Warriors Training Adventure** (www.mkp.org) requests to rent a room in the Church House on Mondays. Mary Lou investigated the group and recommends the rental. Also, Reverend Everett Thomas of Mount Zion Missionary Church in Ecorse, Mi. wishes to rent Pullman Hall one Friday A month for **Jehova Ereh Ministries Coffee House** event.

12. Building and Grounds Report (continued)

Mary Lou moved that we rent the requested facilities to the two groups. Dan Wiest Seconded. Motion passed.

12a. By-Laws Committee Report

Mary Lou Malone gave update on changes to 1st UU by-laws. Considerable discussion took place on the need for a “called” minister to be in fellowship with the U.U.A. The Board’s position is that the option should exist to call a non-fellowshipped minister. Mary Lou moved that Board approve the By-Laws changes. Alicia seconded. Motion passed. The By-Laws changes will be presented to the Congregation in April

13. Creation of Budget

Sharlene Gage, Alicia Biggers, Dan Wiest, Colleen Dolan-Greene and Jim Harvey to meet to discuss Budget Creation.

14. Fundraiser Report

Judy Burkhart was reported as being a person who would put on a 1st UU Auction Event for our church, for a percentage of the proceeds. Due to an oversight and misunderstanding, she has not yet been contacted. Alicia is going to contact Judy.

15. New Business

None.

16. Old Business

None. (Note: R.E. Director Jennifer submitted a written report for March to the Board.)

17. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Walker
Board Secretary