

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 17, 2015

**Present:** President, Marco Cabrera Vice-President, Jerry Beasley Treasurer, Kay Sturgeon  
Secretary, Jan Zerbel Trustees: Richard Miller, Sally Mitchell, Becky Somsel

**Guests:** Nancy Doughty, Leadership Development Committee

Call to order: 10:05

Check-in

Chalice lighting, Opening Words: Board covenant

### **Minutes**

January minutes - Jerry moved to accept. Kay seconded. Passed unanimously

### **Additions/Changes to Agenda**

Rabbi Chava requested discussion on how to invite congregants to share first 6 month assessment. Add above Business.

### **Public Comment**

Reminder by Nancy D. that Board members are invited to suggest names of people who might be nominees for the next Board. Short discussion. Marco recommended that people serving on committees should have been in congregation for at least 6 months.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Staff Report  
Finance Committee Reports  
President's Report

Jerry moved to accept. Sally seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Officer/Committee Reports**

#### Update on Council on Ministry

Jerry reiterated the recent report to the Board by Emily Mitchell, moderator, and Jerry's response. Emily wants to work in partnership with LDC and sees the value of the Council largely with that partnership. Chava and the Board agreed to give Emily what she feels she needs to get this going within the next month. Nancy reminded that the LDC task after March 1 workshop is to focus on candidates for Board, Endowment Committee and LDC.

*Becky moved that Emily choose people for the Council On Ministry with Chava's approval and consultation with LDC to assure that they are not in competition for the same people. Richard seconded. Discussion. Motion passed with one abstention.*

Policy

\* Kay brought up concerns about the revised description that Leadership Development Committee submitted to the Policy Committee, which did not include assisting the Board by providing names for Board committees. Is this something the LDC wants as one of their tasks? ...to be discussed with them by Policy Committee moving forward. What other committees would go to the LDC to find people?

\* General Assembly and funding:

There was money in the Board budget (\$400) set aside to help send the President elect to GA. Jerry is unable to go. Offered to Becky, as she will be on next year's Board, but she also declined. How should the money be used? Discussion. On top of the money in the Board budget, there is the 1/3 distribution from the Endowment Fund that is, according to our Bylaws, designated for the "wider mission of of UU" (\$500). If not used, it goes to next year's unappropriated money.

*Sally moved to use the \$900 for a scholarship to allow someone in the congregation to be a delegate to GA. Seconded by Richard. Amendment by Kay: Of the \$900, \$400 to come from the Board's line item budget and \$500 from endowment distribution to wider UUA cause. Amended motion passed unanimously.*

The scholarship will be open for anyone in the congregation to apply. To be announced in Beacon and Flash.

\* Kay moved that the Board approve the Policy Committee's recommendation of the updated policy manual description of the Treasurer position as drafted and approved by the Finance Committee.

Seconded by Jerry. Passed unanimously.

## **Business**

\*Discussion item:

How to get loving feedback from members and friends regarding Chava's tenure to date. Chava's preference is always to sit with people face to face but concerns over shutting down spontaneity and how to do this with the broader group. Discussion included: Timeline (Is 6 months the magic amount of time?) How invitation is presented. Purpose - for future planning.

\*Parking and Seating:

Richard presented a written report from the Facilities Committee showing possibilities considered to relieve the challenges of parking and seating that are being experienced due to the increased number of people attending Sunday services. The addition of 16 new parking spaces this spring is the limit for that space. The lower parking area has been plowed for overflow use but will not be useable during spring thaw. Off-site car pooling continues to be the best solution for now and efforts are being made to provide bus pick-up from off-site location(s). Addressing the lack of adequate seating, speakers and video projection in the social hall can be provided in addition to seating behind the glass at the back of the sanctuary. The architect of the original building, Jon Walter, has agreed to review structure and plans for future expansion.

*The Board recommended having video projection and speakers set up every Sunday so that congregants know that they can count on it.*

**All** possibilities for relieving seating and parking challenges are on the table and discussion will be ongoing.

*Richard moved that a task force be established under and by the Facilities Committee for the purpose of guiding investigation and coordination of inter-committee communication and responsibility for the meeting of the physical growth needs of our congregation. Becky seconded. Passed unanimously.*

\*Process for minutes:

Jerry suggested that the way it was done last month worked. It was agreed that we would continue unless/until we can fill the paid position of recording secretary.

*Jerry moved that minutes be sent by Jan to Jerry for a second look and then published on the UUCGT website as unapproved minutes until approved at the following Board meeting. Kay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment** - no additional

### **Closed Session**

Extinguish chalice and closing words: Rabbi Chava from Soul to Soul by Mundahl

Closing words for March meeting: Jan

Next meeting - Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Zerbel, secretary