

Minutes of November Board Meeting

Call to Order 7p.m.

Chalice lighting and opening words: Marco Cabrera from The Craft of the Warrior
All members present

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Consent Agenda: October Minutes, Minister's Report

Committee Reports

DRE - playground project

Discussion regarding who is responsible to order equipment that meets with insurance requirements. Ultimately the Board would be responsible if injury occurred. A motion passed to request that RE committee recommend members to serve on an ad hoc committee to facilitate purchase and construction of playground equipment with the understanding that the committee will include membership drawn from related committees such as facilities, and present to the Board for approval. Amendment passed to include that the ad hoc committee must carefully consider liability and insurance compliance.

Treasurer's report - procedures for offertory collection.

Jan G. pointed out that the announcement on the 17th that all donations that day would go to the Philippines implied that nothing would go to the UUCGT general fund. Pledges included in Sunday collections are needed for the budget. It needs to be clear that pledges will be directed to the UUCGT budget. It is suggested that pledge checks should include the word "pledge" to avoid confusion.

Ministerial Search Committee – There was a discussion regarding finding a date for the Board to meet with the committee - to be determined

Negotiating Committee - Price Watts reported that the Negotiating Committee will need one member from the Board to write a Letter of Call when a candidate for settled minister is chosen. Jan Geht was chosen to serve with Paul Ward and Price.

Pending Business

Retreat Follow-up: 1) Marco proposed a covenant he drafted for approval. Motion to adopt it passed. Karl suggested it be read at the beginning of each Board meeting.

UUCGT Board Covenant:

We build our board on a foundation of trust of intention and honesty with one another,
To communicate with kindness and support,
To communicate openly, even when a topic is difficult,
To accept responsibility for our individual acts and promote justice and peace,
To hold each other accountable for all of the above.

2) Priorities - Jan Geht presented 4 motions for Board consideration, based on discussion during the retreat.

1st motion: to amend the description of "Senior Minister" on page 8 of the "Manual on Board, Staff, and Committees" to add as the last two sentences of the first paragraph: "Senior Minister shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the express provisions of this Manual. In the event no express provision of this Manual applies to a particular situation, Senior Minister, in his or her sole discretion, may decide whether to handle the situation by bringing it to

the Board's attention or to resolve it in a manner the Senior Minister sees fit without the Board's involvement."

2nd motion: to establish an ad hoc committee to review the Manual to determine whether any provisions need to be modified, deleted, or added to ensure that there are no significant policy gaps in the Manual, and that the ad hoc committee should report back within 90 days.

3rd motion: to establish an ad hoc committee to review the Manual to determine whether and how to amend the Manual to ensure that the Board has appropriate level of oversight over the activities of the Senior Minister, and that the ad hoc committee should report back in 90 days.

4th motion: to establish an ad hoc committee to review the Manual to determine whether and how to amend the Manual to ensure that either the Board and/or the Senior Minister have the appropriate level of oversight over staff and the standing committees, and that the ad hoc committee should report back in 90 days.

After discussion the 1st and 3rd motions were combined and passed. This ad hoc committee, to be called Ministerial Relations, will be comprised of Karl Love, Jan Geht and Rev. Howe. 2nd motion passed. This ad hoc com. for Manual Review, includes Sally Mitchell, Karl Love, Jan Geht, Marco Cabrera and Rev. Howe. 4th motion passed. Although a separate motion, this ad hoc committee is also for Manual Review and is made up of the same members as the 2nd motion.

New Business

In consideration of Rev. Howe's need for time to plan her professional life, a motion was passed to offer her a 6 month extended contract contingent on the congregation not selecting a settled minister by Jan. 10.

A proposal to join MUUSJN (Mich. Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Network) was tabled.

Public Comment:

Heather Shumaker met with the Board to discuss the current nursery policy which presents a problem for her family. After extensive discussion it was determined that the Board needs to meet with RE director and others involved before making any further decision about reviewing the policy in terms of individual needs and the safety of all children. It was suggested that informal meeting of individuals directly involved might be helpful, possibly involving Rev. Howe.

Announcements

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 7:00 - 9:00 pm
opening words - covenant
closing words - Janet Zerbel
Extinguish chalice and closing words: Cassie Howe

Adjournment 9:35

Submitted by Janet Zerbel, Board Secretary