

Splinters from the Board
January 13, 2013
6:30 p.m. At the UU Center

UUFCM Covenant

UUFCM Mission Statement

Present: Norma Bailey, Vicki Chessin, Ricky Courlander, Gisela Moffit, Chris Nace, Grace Rollins.

1. Chalice (Grace) lighted
2. Welcome (Grace) with check-in by all.
3. Consent agenda – Minutes of December meeting accepted
4. Updates- Preaching schedules for Leonetta Bugleisi and Cassie Howe –Grace will be emailing these to the Board., MLK Flyer (Norma) coming, MUUSJN e-mail sign up (Norma) will go out to Kirsten tonight, Reprints of the 3 articles previewing issues for the All-Congregational Retreat (Norma)-are available in the entry. Lectern/Pedestals (Ricky) –see Worship Team Report below , Meeting with Kathy Harrington (Nana) – has not done yet, Cost & Mechanism of “Time Out” in Morning Sun (Chris)- has not done yet, Payment of Movie license fee (Ricky) - Done, donation to Veteran’s Memorial Library for use of Dumpster (Ricky)-Done. Consider options for a “crash bar” type exit mechanism on the front door- Gisela contacted Tina to look into it.
5. Treasurer’s report (Ricky) - attached. Vicki will continue to work on insurance coverage for Dawn. Gisela will check on the number of copies of order of service printed each week and if we can get better pricing locally.
6. Minister’s report (Nana’) – no report- Nana’ is ill.
7. Worship Team report (Vicki)- attached. We received only half the first pedestal ordered last October and it is not the color we expected, but may be acceptable if we can paint the lectern ebony to match the piano, saving the cost of applying a new laminate. Dawn will be checking with Tina about the repainting and Chris Bailey will work with Marc Reohr to complete the pedestal and its top that we have ordered. Gisela, Norma and Grace will attend the salvage auction on Jan. 25 at noon at CMU and see if an AV cart is available or the public schools may have one also.
8. RE committee report (Sarah) –none – next meeting in Feb.
9. Social action report (Norma)- The Know Us Project (KUP) has given very good feedback about the program held here and the number of allies present. We are still hoping to have Interweave going by spring. There may be a 2 film showing here including one new film about Trans issues. Food truck is still in the planning stages. Codi Brown is in charge of this project.
10. Membership committee report (Gisela) – four people attended the Path to Membership class here yesterday and all 4 wish to join. There will be an ingathering ceremony Sunday Feb 10.
11. Miscellaneous Reports
 - Social Fun – received from Laura McBride included the Holiday Tea summary
 - Building Manager – no report, but 2 interior locks have been installed.
 - Publicity – Chris has no report. The video is done and will be released as soon as all the people captured on film sign a release. Communications Task Force will be asked to facilitate how the video is disseminated: Web page, Facebook and Twitter links, offer to Chamber of Commerce. Possible uses on local Access TV in Isabella and Gratiot Public Access TV and any cost considerations.
 - Communications Task force – report attached. They are continuing to poll the

membership, look at bulletin boards (Gisela has suggested adding contact information to the table tents rather than another bulletin board beside the calendar.)

12. Old business -New Volunteer coordinator still needed to relieve Gisela (All), Workshop on-effective listening (Norma/ Deferred), Safety Planning Webinar, (Grace/Deferred), Membership Webinar (Gisela/Deferred), Stewardship Drive (Norma) will focus on training a few committed individuals willing to do the canvassing rather than a larger number of canvassers not all of whom are comfortable doing this. Budget Requests (All) reviewed in detail by the finance committee with a budget proposal presented and corrected now. Policy for special plate collection (Norma) -deferred, RE Policies regarding disruptive behavior by students were circulated to board members in the last month via Email and no concerns or corrections identified. Therefore they were approved at this meeting and Norma will get us copies for our book of bylaws.(Norma)

13. New business – A) Weapons in places of Worship (all/ deferred), B) Heartland District Meeting (all) in Muncie, IN April 12-13- “Regionalizing” and “future relevance of UU-ism to the next generation” will be topics. Norma will check on how long the drive is to Muncie. C) Policy for membership- Norma proposed that individuals must attend the “Path to Membership” class or meet with the Membership Chair or his or her designee for discussion before being allowed to sign the book - approved, D) Fellowship Video (Norma) viewed by the board – very well received – as soon as it is released we will send a thank you to Guy Newland and Stacey Pattison for their work on the video. The Communications Task Force will be consulted for ideas about how to get the video out there. E) An Email from Bob Busch indicates he plans to convert his Boy Scout troop to the Baden-Powell Service Association and is asking the Fellowship to “sponsor” them to the extent that they have free use of the building for meetings and events. The board understands the principles of the BPSA are in line with our own principles. We are supportive of this use of the building in concept but need more specific details regarding anticipated need for use of the building. Our policies about use of the building as well as the policy requiring two adults be with children at all times would need to be followed. We will ask Bob to make a formal request for when and what they want to use the building. Also we need to address liability issues and whether this is covered by the Baden-Powell Service Association. (Grace) E) Fellowship Life Meeting (all) – Dawn announced before worship today that the Communications Task Force will present their findings from their survey, and invited others to bring misc. issues for discussion. F) All-Congregational Retreat- 9AM-noon Saturday, Jan 26. Although the role of a ¼ time consulting minister who comes in once a month is fairly defined, it is important to help the congregation understand what the consulting minister brings as it complements Dawn’s role as our Worship Director. (Nana’ has told us we need 80 members or more before we can sustain a half time minister and 125 members for a full time minister.) We need to explain what it means to be a congregational church and without a called minister. Examine the several roles of board members, employees, ¼ time minister, worship director, and what the governance and finance issues are. Pose questions: what have ministers of the past done for us? (Franke and Nana’) They provide sermons written just for us versus use of those from Church of the Larger Fellowship. Explain the financial structure and cost of the church and the use of chalice lighter grants we have gotten to pay for the signs and the video. Show the Video. Each break out group requires a leader and recorder. Tentative schedule = 9 AM to 9:15 introductions and name tags. 9:15 to 10 presentation of concepts as above. 10-10:15 present the questions to be discussed later and assign break out groups with a leader. Break for 20 minutes for refreshments 10:15-10:35. (Grace will organize refreshments from the Board members). Break out groups address the questions from 10:35 to 11:30. Then reconvene to report out and wrap up from 11:30 - noon. Norma and Vicki will meet to complete the planning. Each Board member is to contact assigned people and invite them personally to the retreat and let Norma know no later than Sunday, Jan. 20 who will attend and who will need child care. G) Semi-annual meeting with employees (Grace)- not addressed and will be done via Email. H) Board Tickler (Grace) reviewed and includes a reminder to the treasurer that year-end statements (pledges and capital campaign) are due and the Finance Committee is to review the insurance on our building, grounds and liability. Ricky suggested this go in the tickler system for Dec so it is on the agenda for the Finance Committee

meeting in early Jan in future years. Directory update and new publication is due in Feb - Gisela is aware. Norma will get the CMU event calendar for Black History Month in Feb and circulate that.

14. Adjourn at 9 pm Next Board Meeting will be on Sunday, Feb 10 at 6:30 PM at the UU Center.
Respectfully submitted by Vicki Chessin, secretary