

Splinters from the Board
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2013
7:00 p.m. At the UU Center

UUFCM Covenant

UUFCM Mission Statement

Present: Norma Bailey, Vicki Chessin, Sarah Curry, Gisela Moffit, Chris Nace, Grace Rollins, and Rev. Dr. Nana' Kratchivil

1. Chalice Lighted (Nana') Reading "Spring" by Mary Oliver
2. Welcome (Grace) – brief check-in by all
3. Consent agenda – Minutes of March meeting approved. Minutes for the two meetings later in the month will be circulated for approval by Email soon. (Vicki)
4. Updates - A) Cost & Mechanism of "Time Out" in Morning Sun (Chris N.) deferred
B) Update Policy redefining Members and Friends p. 3 (Gisela) – deferred.
C) Affordable Care Act speaker (Chris N.) – Bret Williams from the Michigan Consumers for Health Care Coalition will be here to speak May 16 from 6:30-8:00PM. Chris will have this coming event placed on our E news and Facebook. The Board approved the motion that the UUFCM become a member of this Coalition. Chris will be our contact person for communication from the Michigan Consumers for Health Care Coalition and forward appropriate information to the board and congregation.
D) No meeting with Kathy Harrington as yet (Nana') Casey and Leonetta have been informed of our plan to get a full-time Interim Minister. They extended congratulations.(Grace)
E) Sanctuary sound-New speaker is coming soon. (Vicki)
F) Baden Powell Service Assn sponsorship follow-up with Bob Busch (Gisela) – their next meeting is pending completion of a signed contract.
G) Capital Campaign report shows total outstanding = \$ 13,567.00. Uncollectable = \$ 3146.00 Ricky considers another portion "likely uncollectable" leaving \$8821.00 as a reasonable estimate of what we still or will have to spend. (New speaker will cost \$490). (Norma for Ricky)
5. Treasurer's report (Norma for Ricky) – attached quarterly report . No surprises. Checking Balance = \$33,162.72. Savings = \$33,647.40
6. Minister's report (Nana') – attached Email.
7. Worship Team report (Vicki) – attached. Discussion ensued about plans to enlarge the Worship Team and its future expanding role with Dawn and Nana' leaving and the arrival of an Interim Minister. Most ministers prepare sermons 3 Sundays a month = 30 a year, leaving 22 additional Sundays for lay-lead services . We will continue to use sermons from the Church of the Larger Fellowship and continue the current liturgy. The Worship Team will address this. Thoughtful expansion of the team will be necessary as Nana' and Dawn leave. Sarah Curry is interested in serving on this team. The board approved her inclusion and asked her to begin attending meetings as soon as possible. The team currently meets from 2-4 PM the second Saturday each month. The board suggested asking Guy Newland to return –Vicki will check with him. Others will be sought.
The upcoming stretch of 6 Sundays from July 7 and into August are being addressed by the current Worship Team. They have requested the board allot the finances to invite 2 visiting ministers during that time. The customary honorarium is \$300 plus travel expenses of \$0.6 a mile. The board approved an expenditure of up to \$400 for one visiting minister. – Vicki will inform Dawn so the WT can initiate contacts soon given summer schedules for ministers.
The Board wanted to remind the Worship Team to block out Sundays for our traditional special services like the Water Service on the first Sunday after Labor Day when most people come back from

summer and our Flower Service.

8. RE Committee report (Sarah) – attached 2 documents: There is a good foundation in the RE program since our new RE director began in September. Statistics of attendance attached. The registered youth have increased from 19 last year to 31 at present. Fund raising for the Peace Pole is progressing slowly. Ricky has extended the offer of a service project to our middle schoolers: help clean her garage and she will donate the money to the peace pole. The board asked Sarah to propose this to the RE Committee and also help our youth arrange a “noisy collection” in support of the Peace Pole Project.

9. Social Action report (Norma) – A) Codi Brown has moved to Midland thus we have lost her lead with the Food Truck project. Given the many other pressing demands at present, we will not do the food truck this spring unless someone steps forward to take the lead.

B) Community garden: Cynthia Damer is committed to one, Gisela and Tom Mofitt are doing another and there may be one or two others.

10. Membership Committee report (Gisela) – May 17, 2012 will be the next Path to Membership class.

11. Miscellaneous Reports:

A) Social Fun – no report.

B) Building Manager – no report. The white door of the elevator needs a handle to pull it closed on the inside and also a means to keep it open when exiting. (Gisela will ask the Greeters to help people into and out of the elevator.) We need the Manager’s report for the Annual Report. Gisela will talk with Tina.

C) Publicity- no report.

D) Interim Task Force: Vicki reported on the current status of the application process with the UUA. We will hear on April 22 if there are any fully accredited interim ministers interested in interviewing with us in the first round of the match. The Interim Task Force is meeting concurrently with this meeting to work on our questions for the ministers and their references as well to prepare for the questions they may ask of us. They have solicited input from Nana’ and Dawn this week. The Information Packet suggested by the UUA is very close to completion and will be available digitally. To keep the congregation apprised of this process a Fellowship Life meeting on Sunday, April 28 will provide an update. Norma will lead this. Vicki will ask Kirsten to place an announcement in the Enews.

E) Web site updates are needed badly now. Gisela volunteered to review the site and meet with Kirsten to bring it current as soon as possible. A process and responsible persons need to be identified by which this happens routinely. Individual committees need to be made aware of our expectation that they submit updated information regularly to Kirsten for the website. She will make the changes as she is provided information. For now as a minimum step, the June “tickler” calendar will trigger an annual review of the Web site.

F) Communications Task Force – no report. Brief discussion as to the possibility the task force or someone on it might take on the general oversight of the Web site content.

12. Old business -A) New Volunteer coordinator needed– Grace Rollins has volunteered to take on this task from Gisela on July 1, 2013. Yeah!

B) Fellowship life meeting in March went well. (Norma)

C) Stewardship Drive (Norma) – Every Ambassador has promised to complete their contacts this week. Most members thus far who have committed for next year have increased their pledge to some degree. Norma continues to send individual hand-written thankyou notes for each pledge.

D) General Assembly will be in Louisville, Ky in June 19-23: Vicki, Gisela and Norma are all thinking about going. Transportation and rooms will be shared. The Curt Nash Memorial Fund is used to support leadership development and has been used to help defray the cost of GA for Board members and specifically the President Elect in the past. The board will offer \$500 each to Laura McBride and Scott Daigle for registration fees and travel if they wish to attend. Members attending GA will be

asked to present what they have learned to interested congregants at a Fellowship Life meeting. Registration is needed by April 30 to get the reduced rate. We also need to get hotel rooms soon. Deadline for delegate identification is June 7.(Grace)

E) Nominating Committee for the next board of trustees (Norma) – Laura McBride agreed to run for president elect and Scott Daigle has agreed to be member-at-large. Their names will be presented to the congregation following the bylaws prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 19.

F) Annual Report: (Norma) Committee chairs and staff need to submit their annual reports to Norma ASAP for inclusion in the Annual Report. The Annual Report will be published and distributed at the Annual Meeting May 19.

G) Employee evaluations for Dawn, Nikki, and Kirsten are due soon(Grace) –this has not been a formal process in the past. A question format was discussed. For Example: Consider job description. List employee's strengths...List areas of concern or areas to improve.... List of focus areas for upcoming year.... in what ways can your job be better supported by us? Grace is looking for feedback for each staff member from each board member via Email.

H.) Policy for special plate collection (Norma) – deferred

I) Child Care Policy (Norma) – deferred. Coordinator of child care for UUFCM events. Currently Norma is doing this.

13. New business – A) Fellowship Life Meeting (all) April 28 will be an opportunity to update the congregation on the process of finding an Interim Minister. Vicki will arrange Email and insert announcements. Norma will present.

B) Board Tickler (Grace) – 1) reminder to committee chairs to turn in their annual report. Nana' will add something. Gisela will add a hospitality report.

2)Treasurer is due to send out quarterly summaries of pledge status to membership. The treasuree also will alert members if they have not made a "donation of record" thus far in the fiscal year.

C) Building Needs and Capital Campaign: Furnace and Air Conditioning (Need update in quotes) and coat rack is still needed and will come out of the Capital Campaign to the extent we can. There is a leak in the roof that Gisela will follow up with Tina. This will not be covered by the Capital Campaign funds unless there is extra in there.

D) Safety Planning Webinar (Grace and all) Weapons in places of worship,etc- deferred.

E) Membership Webinar (Gisela) – deferred.

F) Plan agenda for Annual All Congregational Meeting – May 19. Present the Annual Report. Thank all volunteers and "unsung heroes". No bylaw changes this year. Present the Proposed Budget for vote. Present new slate for the Board of Trustees for vote. (Vicki will donate UUSC candles and Grace will go shopping with up to \$50 for gifts for our unsung heroes)

Gisela will place an announcement of upcoming Annual Meeting in each Enews from now to the event. We need to have an Official Notice including an Agenda, proposed budget and proposed slate of new board members sent to all members by May 7 (Norma and Grace).

G) Annual Retreat in August – at Gisela's cabin or Mt Pleasant house. Wait to set date to try to include new minister - tentatively August 10.

H) Dawn's last Sunday will be June 30.

I) Nana' made us aware of the release of a report on "Who's in charge here?" that will be available at GA. Watch for it.

14. Adjourned at 9:37 PM.

Next monthly Board meeting will be Sunday, May 12, 2012 at 7PM at the UU Center.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Chessin, secretary.