

Splinters from the Board  
June 8, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Ricky Courlander, Vicki Chessin, Scott Daigle, Capalene Howse, David MacLeod, Laura McBride, Gisela Moffit, Annette Pratt, Grace Rollins, Janet Simon, Rev. Joe Cleveland, Jen Prout

1. Chalice was lighted while Joe read a quote from Frank Lloyd Wright and the meeting was called to order at 6:37PM - Frank Lloyd Wright's birthday is today.
2. Welcome and check in (Gisela) - all –Gisela shared a special quote with all.
3. Consent Agenda – Minutes of May 4, 2014 Board meeting  
Minutes of the All Congregation Meeting of May 4  
Minutes of Annual Meeting of May 18  
Minutes of Board/TransitionTeam retreat of May 31 were all passed on the consent agenda.
4. Updates/ Announcements:
  - a. Worship in the Park (Picnic) – reactions were generally positive.
  - b. Margaret's Memorial Service (Ricky) – the family sent a check for \$500 to the choir. This will be added to the Music budget.
  - c. Jim Scott concert – Jim Scott has asked again to perform here, but this request is during the UUA General Assembly and many people will be attending or otherwise not here.
5. Interim Minister's Report (Joe) - Things that were out of the usual this past month included going to Lansing to lobby with Mom's Clean Air Force which was valuable because it included training on how to lobby. He has worked on some continuing problems with Emails from Kirsten to the congregation. It would seem it is still in of need more work. He was out of town one week and still heard from people with pastoral concerns. He will need to share his pastoral experiences with Dawn sufficiently to allow her to understand what has been going on and pick up, but not to unduly breach confidentiality. He put together the recent Board Retreat and planned the Worship in the Park service.
6. Transition Team's Report (Joe) – No report - meet next when Norma returns July 3.
7. Worship Team report (Vicki) – attached – still need to send attachments of the Summer schedule and the OOS.
8. Treasurer's report (Ricky) – attached – we spent \$7594.45 and took in \$3552.00  
Building costs are lower because we are between heat and air conditioning.  
\$35272.93 in the savings account. Minister's discretionary fund is down.  
The Peace Pole shows as a negative number (paid for the Peace Pole, but some fund raising moneys have not been turned in yet.
9. RE committee report (Scott) – no report - no recent meeting
10. Social Action report (Laura) – report received – no action needed
11. Membership committee report (Laura) - report received – no action needed
12. **Miscellaneous Reports**
  - a. Social Fun (Laura) – see report Emailed and attached.

- b. Building Manager (Janet) – Tina is resigning and proposes a hand off plan. – attached (lighting on the outside of the building and sprinkler system are in need of repair) –The Board expressed tremendous appreciation to Tina and a thank you card was circulated. Kris Los and Hank Z each expressed willingness to work on meeting these needs. Tina would still be willing to help replace ballasts when they go out. All references to Building manager will need to be changed.
- c. Publicity – no report
- d. Communication Task force (Grace) – no report
- e. Caring Committee (Laura) – report received – no action needed

13. **Old business –**

- a. Update on Stewardship (Gisela) –the drive is not completed. There are still people who have not pledged. Gisela will follow up with the ambassadors.
- b. Volunteer recruitment (spring into fellowship) – Turn out for grounds clean-up this past Saturday totaled 5-6 people. More are needed for next Saturday 10-1PM for washing windows. Bill Tinsley did get some names of volunteers to work with RE this summer. This meets about half the need. We still need more names.

14. **New business –**

- a. Annual Fall Board Retreat date will be August 9 at Gisela's cabin 9 AM – 3 PM and the next Board meeting will be at our the usual time, August 10 at 6:30PM at the UU Center.
- b. Contact Dawn about what she might see as important – clarify expectations back and forth.
- c. Discuss Agenda ideas for the Retreat: (Vicki will contact Dawn and let her know our agenda and see what she might see as important.)

Tentative Agenda for the Retreat:

- ❖ **Design a Board Covenant** - begin with models of Board Covenants – Joe will put together examples of Board Covenants and what such a retreat might look like and get it to Gisela.
- ❖ **Discuss the relationship and expectations of the Board and our new Minister.**
- ❖ **Define the UUFCM Vision** for the coming year or more – specific goals/tasks to accomplish in the coming year to further our Mission.
- ❖ **Streamline governance** and committee structure: look at the current committees, what is working and what is not? (Possibilities: combine compatible committees-of-one and functions into a function committee: examples:
  - Create a "Congregational Life committee" from Welcoming, Hospitality and Membership Committees.
  - Create a Leadership Development Committee with responsibilities for leadership development, filling Committee Chair positions as well as nominating candidates for the Board.(bylaw change needed here)
  - Social Justice – Coordinator versus committee?
  - Create a Communications Team: work on policy and implementation of improved Social medial presence, networking, newsletter options, and publicity for UUFCM with the outer world and assist the needs of committees and for events and functions. ?
  - Goals to have more people involved with RE. What should RE be doing? What's working? What is not? What do we want to try next? Set priorities and assign people

who might take point.

- Prior to the Retreat: **Read the book “Governance in Ministry” by Dan Hotchkiss.**
- Reconsider the role of the Transition Team next year as we are not now in an Interim model. Possibly ask those folks, one or more, to use their new understanding of the congregation within a new Leadership Development Team. ?
- Consider ad hoc task forces to explore new models for RE, Social Justice, Leadership development. –The board requested Joe to explore with the Transition Team whether they see things that remain undone for them with the congregation at the next on July 3.
- Joe suggests a goal: “Continue to strengthen denominational ties – get on the Standing of the Side of Love train. “ –(this is also Social Justice )

- d. Contract in the works for Dawn and need to set up a meeting with Dawn her contract and Board expectations and priorities in July. – Scott and Vicki
- e. Fellowship Life meeting (June 15) – new Mission statement to be shared. Scott and Vicki will provide a reference source for Gisela who will lead.
- f. Evaluation of Joe’s ministry for UUA. This is to be a compilation of the assessments of the old board members. Each is to write their thoughts and comments and forward to Gisela and Laura McBride. The results are to be shared with Joe, the Board and the UUA.
- g. Board tickler for June 1, 2014 - Worship team is looking at the liturgical calendar for 2014-2015. This needs to include our new minister.  
June 30<sup>th</sup> is end of this fiscal year. Update sections on the web site – Joe will talk to Kirsten about a date to change the names of old leadership to new.  
Gisela review other areas that will need updated.  
Scott will address new contracts with the RE Director and Administrator. One resume for the RE Director position has been submitted so far. Capalene will post the position on Midland’s Facebook page. Joe will ask Kirsten to repost on our own UUFCM Facebook page. Scott? will send it to the minister, Kathryn, and the listed DRE at the E. Lansing UU.  
Joe asked about the Hotchkiss book.
- h. Update info in Handbooks – Gisela collect the Board Handbooks. Each Committee Liaison will need to digitally submit corrections to their respective sections to Gisela ASAP. She will pass out revised handbooks at the July Board meeting.
  - Bylaws (Gisela)
  - Covenant and Mission Statement (Gisela)
  - Staffing and Personnel -Minister, Adm. Assistant, RE Director  
job descriptions and contracts. (Scott/Vicki)
  - Building Manager (Gisela)
  - Financial Duties (C) and Finance Comm. (G 5) (Ricky)
  - Building Use policies (Gisela)
  - RE (Scott and Bill T.)
  - Other Policies (Laura, Rev. Joe)
  - Committees (deferred) - Worship team.
  - Tickler (Gisela)

15. Adjourned at 8:47 PM

Next Board meeting will be Sunday, July 13, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the UU Center  
Board Retreat Saturday, August 9, 9-3PM at Gisela's cottage on the lake.  
August Board Meeting August 10, at 6:30PM at UU Center

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Chessin, secretary