

Splinters from the Board
Meeting of October 13, 2013
6:37 p.m. @UU Center

Present: Ricky Courlander, Vicki Chessin, Scott Daigle, Laura McBride, Gisela Moffit, Grace Rollins, Janet Simon

1. Chalice (Gisela) – “In the Soup” Minestrone from Stone Blessings by Robert Walsh
2. Welcome and check in (Gisela) and Tom Moffit took group photo of the Board
3. Consent Agenda – Minutes of September meeting – accepted as presented.
4. Updates/ Announcements:
 - A. Commitment Survey Results (Vicki) – Emailed to the board and posted in Fellowship Hall
 - b. Fellowship Fairs – good information is already being used with new volunteers
 - c. Workshop, Oct. 26 in Ann Arbor –Topic: “Will we ever be able to move beyond this issue? Why are we so stuck?” – Anyone able is welcome to go
 - D. Purchase of new letters (Ricky) – price is up to \$128 plus shipping. Approved for purchase from remaining Chalice Lighter funds.
 - E. cash deposit envelopes (Gisela) –amount slot has been blacked out.
 - f. Coat rack – Have decided to place it against the inside south wall in the Fellowship Hall, we do need the full sized good quality coat rack. People will look again on Craig’s list or EBay but likely we will buy a new one – of the better quality.
5. Interim Minister’s Report (Joe) – attached: we will begin to process a new mission statement. It needs to be shorter and more concise: Memorable and memorizable
Joe is getting questions that suggest there is some confusion among congregants regarding to whom to go for specific concerns. Laura McBride will develop a flow chart with names and photos to post in the Fellowship Hall and we will design handouts/handbills with information listing various interest groups, teams or committees with contact information and photos of the chair persons. We have taken a group photo of the board to be put on-line as well as on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Gisela will take charge of that task.
6. Transition Team’s Report (Norma) –attached. The TT has planned the Cottage Meetings for the congregation in October. Joe and Scott have written a draft of contracts for staff. The board is interested in understanding the roles of the TT and those of the Board as we move ahead with planning Stewardship over the next few months. To that end we think it would be helpful to have a joint meeting of the board, TT and Joe. Dates were considered and we will see if they can meet with us on Sunday, Oct. 27 either afternoon or evening.
7. Worship Team report (Vicki) – attached. The Liturgical calendar is well underway. Board members remind the WT that older youth, Izzy, Roman and Josh all like and can do

readings. “140 character tweets” is another way to suggest Joys and Concerns shared verbally be brief.

8. Treasurer’s report (Ricky) – attached. Our current checking balance at the end of this month is \$44,322.26. The Income = \$22,491.01 and our expenditures = \$28,211.94 but much of this apparent overage is the already anticipated outflow for Joe’s benefits that comes out of a prefunded pool. We paid Joe at the beginning of his service for a month when he began 2 weeks into the month and he will not be paid at the end for his final two weeks. Fairshare and Building Insurance have been paid for the year. Ricky also paid Mark Reohr for the pedestal he made last year.

8. RE committee report (Scott) – attached are reports of meetings on Sept. 12 and Oct. 3. The beginning of the year has been labor intensive for Niki, as it has for many. This should settle down. Niki will give more responsibility to Bill Tinsley and he will disseminate the information to others. The RE program is up and running. Niki has reorganized the curriculum to adjust for being short one volunteer for the earlier structure. Scott will look for a Handicap restroom sign or make one.

10. Social Action report (Grace) – Gisela reported that the Citizen’s Climate Lobby which Jim Dealing is co-leading will meet at the UU Center about once a month and this church will provide sponsorship such that there will not be rent charged. Their mission aligns with ours.

11. Membership committee report (Laura) – attached. New path class could have up to 10 people who are eligible. Gisela and Joe will do the next path class on Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.

12. **Miscellaneous Reports**

- a. Social Fun (Laura) – attached.
- b. Building Manager (Janet) – attached. Tina reports that she is unable to reach Tim McBride, our lawn care and snow plowing person, and the lawn is not being mowed. She asks that his pay be held until he provides current contact information and has made connections with Tina.
- c. Publicity – need a brochure about our fellowship. Gisela is getting some examples from local congregations and we might try to get some from other UU churches as well.
- d. Communication Task force -pending
- e. Caring Committee (Laura) – attached.

11. **Old business –**

- a. “Beyond Categorical Thinking” Workshop (Joe) deferred
- b. Employment Assessment tools, new contract design (Scott and Joe are working on this. Getting examples.
- c. Chalice Lighter Grant (Gisela) – Funds that remain after purchase of the letters for the way side pulpit can be used to print brochures. Gisela will find out from Lisa Presley how and when we file a final report and to whom.
- d. Silent Auction (Gisela, Vicki) - under way – Oct 19. Jobs have been filled.

- e. Unmet need: maintaining paper in the printer and cartridges stocked. A sign needs to be put on the lowest ream of paper and the new printer cartridge to notify Kris Los when putting into use, so supplies are reordered. Paper and cartridges should be kept in the drawer below the printer.

12. New business –

- a. Fellowship life meeting, Oct. 20 topic- Norma will explain “cottage meetings”
- b. Started discussion on Stewardship needs - need a meeting with the Transition Team tentatively on Oct 27. Purpose to discuss the stewardship needs. Clarify what Rev Joe is expected to do– need for growth.
- c. Brainstorming new vision/mission statement – must await the messages we get from the Cottage Meetings/
- d. Board Tickler for October (Gisela) – Statements of donations have been sent by the Treasurer for this quarter. CMU calendar information– Norma is doing this, Fellowship life topic decided-done
- e. Safety webinar (deferred)
- f. Membership Webinar (deferred)
- g. Weapons in places of Worship (deferred)

Adjourned at 8:38 PM

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Chessin

Next Board Meeting November 10 at 6:30 PM at the UU Center