

UUSMC Board of Trustees Meeting

9/22/15

Present: Mary Pat Knauss, Tracy Morgan, MQ Riding, Larry Stomberg, Ivonne Antongiorgi, Rev. Greg Pelley

Excused: Judy Pappenhagen, Bruce Koepcke

The meeting was called to order at 7pm.

Rev. Pelley lighted the Chalice with a reading.

- I. Reflective Reading Discussion
Rev. Pelley shared a reading by Kelly Weisman Asprooth-Jackson, “ The Church That Doesn’t Matter”. Board members offered their reflections on the reading as to why our church matters to them: importance of worshipping together as a family; viewed as a beacon for inspiration and guidance(sits on a hill); we can make a difference in DE with our collective strength; our ability to overcome many transitions is a testament to an inner capacity to be motivated by something larger than ourselves; our type of liberal religion is important, we are at our best when we make a difference in the world; our job is to change hearts; our differences and disagreements are an indication that our church really matters.
- II. Approval of August Minutes
The minutes were approved.
- III. 2016 Board Goals
 - a. Strategic Planning – The task force is using a poster board to gather the opinions and feelings from the congregation about the church. Information will be used to measure and design the next steps of the committee work.
 - b. RE – During the following month, this committee will be reaching out to small groups(teachers, students, parents, choir, Board) to gain an understanding of their vision of RE. It will subsequently seek input from the general membership to broaden the understanding of the needs of our community and how to reflect those in our RE program.
 - c. Governance and Policy – The task force is preparing a procedural document that will provide guidance to supervisors for the church’s management and oversight. It will be presented for Board review at the next Board meeting.
- IV. Safe Congregations Policy Review
The Committee has completed the Safe Congregations Policy and Procedures. Following Board input, it will fine-tune the document and present it for final Board approval at the next Board meeting.
- V. Treasurer’s Report
The Finance Committee is closing out pledges from last year and individual contacts are being made, as appropriate.
- VI. Minister and Staff Reports

RE average attendance decreased in September due to a variety of activities our youth participated in the first three Sundays of the month.

The Board affirms its reciprocity with churches in the Priestly-Kingsbury UU District for sabbatical coverage. Under this covenant, ministers in the district preach at churches where ministers are on sabbatical. Rev. Pelley has been invited to preach in Reading, PA on May 8.

The Generosity Study Group has proposed that the church un-couple the pledge drive/stewardship campaign from the budget process. This idea is conceived on the premise that generosity goes beyond money and can be illustrated by the giving of our time, expertise, knowledge, and talents.

Rev. Pelley's first renewal of his Ministerial Fellowship Program with the UUA is due on November 1. Three Board members will be part of the renewal/evaluation process.

Rev. Pelley provided an article on [How will The Millenials Change The Church?](#) by Sarai Rice to provoke thinking about the importance of looking at generational changes in how churches are organized.

The Faithify project to crowdfund \$1,500 toward paying the musicians a fair wage is going very well. The project has raised \$1,031 to date.

RE groupings are reorganized to help reduce the number of volunteers needed; DRE has attended online classes. A request is made to have a more detailed report from the RE program.

Rev. Pelley closed the meeting with a spiritual reading.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ivonne Antongiorgi, Secretary
UUSMC Board of Trustees