

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert
Board of Directors Meeting
April 18, 2017
Minutes

1. Board Met in Executive Session on 4/18/2017 prior to monthly meeting. Chalice Lighting was prior to the Executive Session.

Attending Monthly Board Meeting: Reverend Julie Forest, Interim Minister; Sarah Gonzales, President; Shirley LeMaster, 1st VP; Roger Beaman, 2nd, VP; Jerry Hogsett, Treasurer; Denise Janssen Eager, Director at Large. Absent: Bruce Elwood, Director at Large.

Visitors Attending: Steve and Nancy Boyce, Marion Ellson, Marty Gronewald, Jane Zaun.

2. Approval of Minutes: The Board approved minutes from Monthly Board Meeting on 3/14/2017 as well as minutes from the Board and Finance Committee Special Meeting on 3/30/2017.

3. Reports:

a. President Sarah Gonzales: At the Congregational Meeting on 4/23/17 the Nominating Committee will present a proposed slate of officers for the coming year (7/1/2017-6/30/2018). Sarah suggested the Current Board welcome the new Board by inviting them to a combined Dinner and Board Meeting. The date was set for May 30, 2017.

Sarah also suggested the Incoming Board participate in a Board retreat all day from 9-2 on a Saturday. July 8th, 2017 was scheduled for the retreat.

b. 1st VP Shirley LeMaster: Shirley reported that she met with Mike Reandeau to debrief the Mystery Dinner fundraiser. He is composing notes on important things to know about coordinating the project. There is a concern that the Mystery Dinner project has "run its' course" and whether or not to have the fundraiser for a 4th year. Shirley stated,

if the Board decides to continue it, she is not available to direct the Mystery Dinner next year. However, she has approached 2 other experienced members who agreed to consider directing. Shirley said that if the incoming Board wants to have the dinner again it will need to be scheduled soon on next year's calendar.

Regarding expenses for the Mystery Dinner, Jerry Hogsett contributed that the fundraiser realized less funds than last year.

c. 2nd VP Roger Beaman: Roger expressed his frustration with the amount of time spent coordinating the dinner fundraiser vs. the income realized. He felt there were approximately 300 hours of volunteer work for an estimated \$1300 income. Rev. Julie engaged Roger in clarification of his concerns. Sarah added that she would like to engage the congregational members in ideas of methods of fundraising as well as building community. In addition, the topic of the role of the 2nd VP on fundraising will be included in the new Board agenda at the retreat.

d. Treasurer Jerry Hogsett: Jerry presented a report of income received this fiscal year as well as expenses to date. In addition, he presented an analysis of pledge status for the current year.

e. Minister Reverend Julie: Rev. Julie reported on the results from her meetings with small groups of congregants where they expressed their fears, goals, and hopes. She is working with the Transition Team on a Church history. In addition, she is working with the Pastoral Care Team and the Worship Team.

She said there are items remaining in the office that she does not need and will ask Joni Paddock to go through the items to determine if any of the items are of value to the church. Denise Janssen Eager requested that if anyone finds the children's book, *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, that she had previously loaned to Suzanne Marsh, she'd like it back.

4. Current Business:

a. Preparation of Annual Meeting: Board members discussed the best method of determining the required 32 members for a quorum. Board Members would pass out voting cards to the members who are eligible to vote. Rev. Julie will relight the Chalice and name the members/friends who have died during this church year (4/2016-4/2017). Reports will be given from Committee Chairs including the Board President and Rev. Julie.

b. Approval of Professional Bookkeeping and Payroll Services: Marty Gronewald presented information and annual amounts for AMS for Professional Bookkeeping (\$1800/year) and TJ Hull for Payroll (\$600/year). There was a motion made and seconded to approve these agencies for our bookkeeping and payroll for the fiscal year 7/1/17-6/30/18. The Board approved the motion.

c. Attitude of Gratitude Notes to Congregants: The Board agreed on a monthly basis to send approximately 3-4 personally written gratitude notes from the Board to congregants who provide valuable service to the congregation. This month the Board sent cards to Mike Reandeanu, Sue Caspari and Steve Deatherage.

5. New Business:

a. Report from Membership Committee--Description of Membership: Marion Ellson addressed the Membership Committee's desire to more specifically define what "Membership" means as she presented the proposed Description created by the Membership Committee. The Board discussed inviting the congregants to participate in a general discussion of what it means to be a member of UUCOD. A decision was made to postpone this topic until fall to allow for all congregants to participate. The Board discussion on Membership scheduled for Sunday 5/7/17 post worship service was postponed to fall. Sarah commented that in the future she and the incoming Secretary will collaborate on letters for inactive members to clarify their membership status.

b. Discussion and Approval for Funding Delegates to General Assembly:

Sarah stated our congregation is entitled to 3 delegates. Sarah requested that the board approve the allocation for her as president and 2 other delegates to pay the registration fees to General Assembly. All other expenses are to be the delegates responsibility. The cost of 3 delegate registrations will be \$1080. As President, Sarah will attend as a delegate. Other congregants will be invited to submit applications to attend GA as a delegate. The Board approved a motion made by Roger and seconded by Denise for UUCOD to pay delegate registration.

c. Communication between Board and Congregation: In the absent of Bruce Elwood this topic was postponed.

d. Discuss and Approve Nominees for Committee Chairs:

The Board approved two Committee Chairs: Bryna Blum for Pastoral Care and Walter Gendell to the By-Laws Revision Committee. For the time being Walter will review the bylaws to see if revisions are necessary. The Board will form a committee at a future time for possible revision. Sarah asked the board members to recommend chairs for the following committees at the next board meeting: Finance, Social Justice, Religious Education, Paver Coordination and Library Coordination.

Next Board Meeting: May 30th 5:30PM Dinner for Current and New Board Members, General Open Meeting at 6:30.

Minutes submitted by Jane Zaun