

**Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert**  
**Board Meeting, December 19, 2017**  
**Minutes**

**Attending:** Rev. Julie Forest, Interim Minister; Sarah Gonzales, President; Roger Beaman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Marty Gronewald, Treasurer; Jane Zaun, Secretary; Bruce Elwood, Director at Large.

**Absent:** Shirley LeMaster, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Susan Hannon, Director at Large.

**Visitors:** Steve Boyce; Nancy Boyce

1. Chalice Lighting: Rev. Julie led the Board in 5 minutes of silent meditation.

2. Approval of Minutes: Minutes were approved as amended.

3. Reports:

President:

Sarah shared the December 17<sup>th</sup> Conversations with the Board Congregational meeting on membership was well attended with many ideas contributed.

Sarah also shared the four districts of UUA's Pacific Western Region of UUA will gather April 27-29 in Portland Oregon for the 2018 Regional Assembly. Details will be in the UUCOD December Newsletter.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

In the absence of Shirley LeMaster, Sarah reminded the Board of the next Church Council on Saturday, February 17, 2018.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Roger reported the Endowment committee is formed and their first meeting is scheduled in January. He also discussed a fund raiser planned for spring to be held at the Beaman home. The Board agreed the funds will be used to maintain and sustain the music fund at the present level.

Treasurer:

Marty reported on the current financial position of UUCOD including an increase in SCRIP sales. He also outlined the financial controls utilized.

Regarding the McCloud Trust, the new Trustee needs a statement that the Treasurer and President can sign for UUCOD. There was a motion made, seconded and passed that the Board reaffirms that Marty Gronewald, Treasurer, and Sarah Gonzales, President, can sign on behalf of UUCOD regarding the receipt and disposition of the funds from the John McCloud Charitable Remainder Trust.

#### Minister:

Rev. Julie shared she is working on materials for the Christmas Eve service for our visiting minister, Rev. Fast. Rev. Julie requested the Board consider sharing the plate collections on Christmas Eve with the UUA fire response for California UUA congregations affected by the wildfires.

She is also working on a teen religious education program.

The Committee on Ministry has met for the first time.

Rev. Julie reported she has met with the co-chair of the Finance Committee; she shared their discussion of the need for an external review of the financial accounting processes. Following an extended discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to authorize the co-chair of the finance committee to obtain bids to retain a 3<sup>rd</sup> party professional to review and advise on church books and financial processes and if there are any structural errors to advise us how to fix them.

Rev. Julie reminded the Board of her vacation in January. She will be in the pulpit on January 7 then on vacation.

#### 4. Current Business:

##### a. Attitude of Gratitude:

The Board sent Gratitude Cards to Rod Belshee, Fran Hoag, Tim Hill and Sheryl Eaton.

##### b. Church Safety:

Bruce shared a proposal for safety procedures for UUCOD. He will bring them back before the Board next month for further review.

##### c. Appoint Stewardship Drive Co-Chairs:

Sarah reported that Chris Eager has volunteered to chair the 2019-2020 Stewardship Drive. Roger Beaman will co-chair. Sarah encouraged the Board members to demonstrate leadership in the drive. Sarah will work with Chris to determine timelines, identify materials, and plan a kick-off date.

d. Preliminary Minister Survey Results:

The Board reviewed preliminary results on the congregational minister survey. Full results will be available for the congregation at a later date.

e. Appoint a Search Committee:

A motion was made seconded and passed to appoint Ken Mills, Susan Hannon, and Shirley LeMaster for the Search Committee.

5. New Business:

a. Additional Church Cleaning:

Sarah reported that Geoff Winstead agreed to a maximum of 4 hours/weekly for additional church cleaning from November through April.

b. Concrete Repair:

Steve Boyce stated there are 3 sections of concrete on the patio that are in need of repair. He has met with 2 contractors for bids and he recommends Desert Concrete. There was a motion made, seconded and passed to accept the bid of \$2286.00 from Desert Concrete to repair the patio concrete sections.

c. Strategic Maintenance Study:

Steve reported the Strategic Maintenance Study Group has met and are in the process of evaluating the building for any needed maintenance. He will report back after their next meeting to give a full report to the Board.

Steve stated the Church needs a new Christmas tree; the Board authorized the purchase of a new tree. He will take advantage of sales on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

6. Closing:

Rev. Julie led the Board in closing comments.

7. Executive Session:

The Board met in executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Zaun,  
Secretary

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Date