
Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert

Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2024

Attending:

A meeting of the UUCOD Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

Board Members attending in person: Bob Rancourt, President, Claudia Simmons, Secretary, Walter Gendell, Director at Large, Rev. Ian W. Riddell, Minister

Board Member Attending by Zoom: Fran Hoag, 2nd Vice President, Jerry L'Hommedieu, Treasurer, Carol McDaniel, Director at Large

Board Member Absent: Julia Alberg-Burbank, 1st Vice President

Others Present: Marty Gronewald

Welcome and Call to Order

Bob called the regular Board Meeting to order at 5:00 PST.

Chalice Lighting

Rev. Riddell offered inspirational sentiments and lit the chalice.

Check-In

Bob welcomed everyone and he and the Board checked in.

Process Moderation

Process monitor was assigned to Walter Gendell.

Consent Agenda

- The Board made a motion to approve the March 19, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes [Moved by Jerry L'Hommedieu and seconded by Walter Gendell]. Minutes Approved.

Voices of the Congregation

- Review and Consideration of UUCOD Delegation to UUA General Assembly
 - Four congregants, plus Rev. Ian, will be attending the UUA General Assembly: Walter Gendell, Jane Zaun, Linda Savard, and Bob Rancourt (pending).
 - Attendees are planning to meet ahead of the UUA Conference in order to cross-reference who will be attending the various classes that will be offered.
 - As all delegates will be voting on Article 2 at the UUA General Assembly, and because this is such an impactful vote, there will be a gathering after service one Sunday in May

to get some sense of how the congregation feels about these changes to Article 2 and how they may wish to see the vote cast on said Article.

- Review and Consideration of Appreciation Project
 - Fran Hoag brought the Board up to date on the beautiful piece of art being prepared for a special presentation. An appropriate frame will be placed around the fused art, and its placement was discussed.

Old Business

- Review and Planning of Annual Business Meeting
 - Bob Rancourt reported that the official notices of the Annual Business Meeting were sent out to the congregation.
 - The official agenda has been posted. Electronic notice of or hard paper absentee notices have been sent out to those requesting.
 - Still cleaning up technical details.
 - Absentee ballots postmarked by April 22nd should start coming to Pam Bibb shortly.
 - Bob will be reaching out to the Committee Chairs for their overviews and checking with facilities and the A/V team for coverage of the meeting.
 - Past Service Awards will be presented during the Annual Meeting.
- Review and Consideration of Committee on Ministry Board Appointee
 - Bob Rancourt reminded the Board that it needs to consider a potential replacement candidate for Jane Zaun, who will be rotating off the Committee on Ministry. There is a 2-year appointed position, and the replacement needs to be in place by July 1, 2024.
 - Joaquin Galeano will also be rotating off the Committee, and his replacement will be chosen by Rev. Ian. Walter Gendell will stay on the Committee for another year.
 - The replacement should be someone that can maintain impeccable confidentiality and one who can envision on a large scale and can look at the congregation as a whole.
- Review and Confirmation of Board Table Delegation to Palm Springs Pride's Annual Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast
 - Bob will get out an email for people who are attending and request payment be turned in now.
- Nomination and Designation of Attitude of Gratitude Note Recipients
 - Walter will send notes to people for the church social and for Vicki who arranged the appreciation gift.

Unfinished Business

- Review, Consideration, and Discussion of the Membership Committee's Instant Church Directory
 - The Board was informed that the congregation's record-keeping program, MemInfo, is retiring itself as of April 2025. Conversation ensued about the possibility of finding a program that would include information that could be integrated and used for all of the church's data collection needs. Rev indicated that there are other programs out there that can be used for these purposes.

- It was felt that this is an opportunity for finding the best program to service member records, a fluid membership directory, and be able to integrate with QuickBooks for financial purposes.
 - Creating a task force to investigate possible programs that would suit all these needs was discussed. It was felt that the task force should include a member (or members) from Finance, Membership and Rev. Ian. It was also felt that it would be beneficial to add Rod Belshee to this team.
 - Big thanks went out to Marty Gronewald and the pilot online membership directory team for all the time and effort that has been expended to get the program up and running. It was felt that the online directory should continue as a stop gap, as well as a having available a pdf printable member directory. The team and the Board will continue to promote the existing model until a new comprehensive program is in place.
- Review and Discussion of Board Reading: “Transforming Conflict: The Blessings of Congregational Turmoil” (Ch. 7-8).
 - Assignment for next month: Chapter 9 and 10. Consider reviewing the Conflict Processing Worksheet on page 131.

New Business

- Review and Discussion of Monthly Reports
 - See attached detailed reports.
- Review, Consideration, and Discussion of the Finance Committee’s Possible New Vacation Rental Fundraiser
 - Chris Eager was not in attendance to discuss this issue, hence, this item will be tabled to next month’s meeting.

Process Moderation

- Walter Gendell reported that the Board Meeting ran on time, and everyone had been heard.

Chalice Extinguishment

- Rev. Riddell extinguished the chalice with words of gratitude.

Adjournment

- Bob adjourned the regular Board meeting at 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Claudia L. Simmons, Secretary

Date Approved: May 21, 2024.

Attachments
Monthly Reports