

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2012**

Staff: Charles Ortman, Judy Tomlinson

Members: Cheryl Crawford, Terry Cummings, Teresa DeSousa, Jerry Fried, Laura Kushner, Dennis Kurtti, Carol McGough, Judith Rew, Judy Strachan

Guests: Ed Boyle and Jason Brome

Teresa DeSousa called the meeting to order at 7:35.

Motion was made by Terry Cummings and seconded by Cheryl Crawford to approve the minutes of November 20, 2012 meeting. **Motion carried.**

Thank yous

Beth Smith, Anne Sailer, Tom Parente, Malinda Loflin, Steve Schoenweisner, Danny Parente, Jonathan Drucker, Anneliese Scherfen – Holiday Pageant
Senior Youth, Kate Conroy, Courtney Allen, Kaija Allen – Mantel of Giving

Website Update

Ed Boyle and Jason Brome demonstrated the new website, which is projected to launch in early January. Word Press allows for editors who have access to upload to the site (Jaclyn, Donna, Charlie and Judy, initially) and contributors who prepare drafts. The new site will feature a calendar which can be updated daily. Ultimately it will become the publishing platform for announcements, The Gazette and the order of service.

Minister's Report – Judy Tomlinson

Eighth grade OWL has completed their orientation.

The COA class has met their mentors and begun to fill requirements. The parent group met last Thursday.

The Senior Youth will deliver gifts to Newton Street School tomorrow.

Tuli Patel of the Summit Congregation has agreed to be the retreat facilitator.

The theme of the Undoing Racism program in 2012 is respectful communication.

Departure for sabbatical on 12/29 – return on Easter Sunday, 3/31.

Administrator's Report

We have instituted a new collection procedure.

A marriage equality group wishes to begin renting at \$400 per month for a period of six months and there is a possible rental by an after-school program, at \$75 per month, beginning in January.

A nursery school/day care program proposes to rent our facilities at \$2500 per month in September 2013. They are preparing a presentation to the Board.

Treasurer's Report – Judy Strachan

Financials overall are healthy. Pledge income year to date is over budget while short and long-term rentals and fundraising continue to be under budget. The auction has come in on budget.

The Board received the Treasurer's report as presented. (Cummings/Fried)

President's Report

Five committees sent representatives to the recent visionary workshop, which was well received.

The name change from Nominating to Nominating and Leadership Development Committee will broaden the scope of the group and have it serve as a conduit, along with Adult RE and Harvest the Power, for development of leaders in the entire congregation. *Participants will serve a three-year term, subject to the pleasure of the Board.* We will hold a congregational meeting on January 27th to put the italicized bylaw revisions to a vote.

Motion made by Jerry Fried and seconded by Terry Cummings to take the proposed change to the congregation. **Motion carried.**

The auction netted \$29,700 after \$1,000 was deducted for expenses.

Teresa requested participants on 1/6/12, at Mission for Worship seminar with Robert Latham in White Plains.

Matt Silverman plans a reception to big donors on 1/19 (CBO will be out of town; TD to check date with Matt)

The music committee has completed its evaluation of Marcus Hauck and recommends extending his employment.

Laura Wilson has stepped out of the book sale, resulting in the decision not to hold the sale in 2013.

Minister's Report – Charles Ortman

John L. Carter Jr. has died this month.

UUCM will hold a joint theater date on 1/31 with the UU Congregation of Essex.

Melissa Allen has written a report of her interview with Connie Thames and Robin Sharif, a part of the Council on Ministry's interviewing process focusing on the Sunday experience.

Jaclyn Puleo had her baby, a boy, Anthony John.

Our new quilt has been presented back to the congregation and hangs on the wall outside of the Rotunda.

Bob Varsalona is no longer employed at the UUCM; Judy Strachan is assisting.

New Business

Dennis Kurtti relayed a concern brought to him about the legality of the pictures on Facebook of the participants in the MESH program. Teresa will contact Gwen Ames.

Jerry Fried queried the Board about engaging the congregation in the work of Building One NJ; Teresa and Jerry will discuss strategies.

Upcoming Events

12/20, 5:45 – Vigil for gun control

12/27 – Leadership Open House, at home of Judy Tomlinson

Motion was made by Terry Cummings and seconded by Carol McGough to enter executive session. **Motion carried.**

Motion was made by Judy Strachan and seconded by Jerry Fried to come out of executive session. **Motion carried.**

Board Moments

12/23 – Board – Happy Holiday message

Scheduling

1/27 – Congregational meeting

Process Observations

While discussion was a bit scattered, the Board came to good decisions, with focus on marginalized populations.

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 (Strachan/Kushner) **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted
Carol McGough