

UUCM Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Attending were Reverend Justin Osterman, President Michael Mernin, Vice President Sue Raufer, Treasurer Dennis Kurtti, Secretary Sheila Eby and Trustees Jim Abramson, Doug Andrews, Paul Black, Steven Mintz and Denise Rodgers.

We called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

We prepared a congratulatory note for Iris DeLaPaz and her wife Lauren, a sympathy card for Ellen Fenster-Kuehl, and thank you cards to Michael Hedrick and Danny Guevara. Dottie moved to give Danny a \$150 pre-paid cash card in light of his considerable extra work; Sue seconded that motion.

President's Report

- We agreed to read before our Tuesday meetings all the reports distributed to us electronically the previous Friday. Only questions or objections related to those reports will be discussed at our meetings.
- We will schedule ourselves to write the monthly Gazette board articles, the monthly Board Moments and the weekly announcements. We will determine the focus of each of these communications at our meetings.
- Two board members will sit at a marked table every coffee hour.
- Dottie suggested our nametags indicate that we're board members.
- We responded to an inquiry from the town of Montclair providing documentation of our nonprofit status.

Senior Minister's Report

- Seven people visited since our last board meeting.
- A member of the congregation resigned due to political discussions. This cannot recur. Our tax-exempt status absolutely forbids political favoritism, and we, as the organization's leaders, must defuse partisan conversations, respect others' opinions and maintain congeniality.
- Jim suggested a board moment address this point.

Ministerial Search Committee Report (Peter Arian, et al.)

- The proposed contract was presented and discussed. Denise moved we accept the package; Sue seconded the motion.

Proposed Compensation Package for Settled Minister Candidates (Chris Corbett, et al.)

- The Board votes to accept the Negotiating Committee's recommendation for compensation and terms of the contract for the Settled Minister.
- The selected candidate will increasingly take on the role of chief executive officer, with managerial responsibility for all paid staff, as we transform ourselves into a policy board.
- Sue moved we accept the proposal; Sheila seconded the motion.

Stewardship Task Force Report - Pledge Drive

- Jerry Fried accepted the leadership role, asking for a co-chair.
- Denise stated the need to promote stewardship -- not just helping to fund the congregation, but also working on its behalf.

Dennis on Treasury Reports

- We must close out last year's budget. There's an \$18K deficit. Proposal to take funds from the reserve fund and transfer it to the Chase general checking account.
- Dennis moved to approve the transfer; Denise seconded the motion.

Review of Strategic Staffing meeting with David Pyle

- Excellent session

Actions taken:

- Approved \$150 gift card for Danny (Dennis to get & send)
- Approved compensation packet as presented by Peter Arian & Chris Corbett
- Composed and approved advisory sentence fore negotiating committee (Denise)
- Approved a funds transfer to cover deficit (Dennis)

Tasks:

- Michael will circulate sign-ups electronically for board.
- Michael will get signage for board table for coffee hour.
- Michael is dealing with Montclair Township Clerk regarding evidence of non-profit status.
- Sue will mail card for Ellen.
- Doug will talk to Judy T. re nursery school. Suggest inviting RE reps to board meeting w/ recommendations.
- Michael will draft particulars for a board moment for this Sunday regarding 50(c)(3) status and political statements. Jim will deliver statement.
- Sue, Dennis and Michael will pull the data together for David Pyle.
- Doug will prepare a Gazette article for Monday.
- Michael will include approval of September minutes to next board agenda.

Process Observation: Paul Black

- Did we sufficiently address the political issue Justin mentioned? Do we know what happened and how we will address it?