



Board Meeting and Retreat -- July 18, 2018

Our Mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.

Meeting Minutes

Board: Gail Bishop, President; Ann Hutton, Vice President; Greg Turosak, Secretary; Rob Harveland, Treasurer; Charyssa Cobb, Kim Reid, Jessica Hoffman, Dave Siljenberg and Joe Lobl, Members at Large; Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, ex officio

1. **Call to Order and Chalice Lighting:** Gail called the meeting to order. Rev. Luke provided words for reflection and lit the chalice.
2. **Consent Agenda: Motion** by Ann, second by Dave to accept the consent agenda including the agenda and June 2018 minutes including addendum to minutes. Unanimous
3. **Language regarding special funds.** This was moved to the August agenda.
4. **Financial update.** This was moved to the August agenda.
5. **Status report on smoke, fire alarms.** Greg provided a status update, based on emails from Dave Edmonson. Dave has delivered the signed contract to Custom Alarm, along with the down payment. Work will likely will be done in August and should go quickly once it begins.
6. **Ministerial evaluation/board evaluation.** Charyssa said she, Kate Thompson-Jewell and Jerry Katzmann have gone through about 80 congregational surveys submitted and aggregated the comments. They have been sent to Kathy Brutinel and Beth Atkinson. Following discussion, consensus of the board was for summarizing the comments by question. Both evaluations will be considered at the September Board meeting. Then, availability of the results will be broadcast more widely via the pulpit and e-communications in the run-up to the weekend of Oct. 6 and 7. A congregational/leadership gathering is planned for Oct. 6, and a cottage meeting is planned for Oct. 7. Part of these forums could be used to go over survey results.
7. **Reflections at upcoming Board meetings.** Copies of the book "Serving With Grace" were distributed to all Board members. Rev. Luke explains his vision of Board members reading a chapter each month, with one Board member offering a short reflection of the chapter at each meeting. Board members volunteered to go in this order: August – Kim; September – Gail; October – Greg; November – Charyssa; December – Jessica; January – Ann; February – Dave; March – Joe; April – Rob.

Board meeting concludes

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, Secretary

High-level summary of Board retreat

The July 18 Board meeting was held in tandem with a Board retreat. Some of the retreat items were covered earlier in the evening prior to the monthly Board meeting; other items occurred afterwards.

Board members and Rev. Luke welcomed Jessica Hoffman, who missed the July meeting. Meal was provided as a video covering the history of the UU Church in Rochester played.

Gail went through a PowerPoint presentation covering Board responsibilities.

In turn, Board members read portions of the Board covenant, after which each Board member signed.

Rev. Luke presented on several topics: a Minister's report covering June and July; a description of the Shared Ministry model of governance; and his vision of engaging the congregation in a multifaceted discussion of the future of our church building and grounds in a way that furthers our mission.

Much of the remainder of the retreat focused on discussion of: Current Board goals and visions; new goals; and a task list. The following was agreed to in terms of the first two items:

Church Visions (1-3 year)

1. To be a church that strives to create multi-generational opportunities with:
 - a. children as they explore inclusion, spirituality, and wonder
 - b. youth as they explore and discern their own beliefs and identity
 - c. young adults seeking community
 - d. families seeking support and connections in raising children and youth
 - e. adults seeking to stay connected to the church community
2. To be a congregation that is building meaningful connections within our walls and into the wider community.
3. Engage the congregation in a reflective conversation to identify how our space enables and supports our church mission, identity, values, and needs.

Board Goals, 2018/19

1. Continue developing an understanding of *Shared Ministry* at 1st UU:
 - a. communicate and educate the congregation
 - b. utilize the results of the first-year evaluation to help the Minister, the Board, and the Congregation fulfill our Mission
2. Improve communication channels with congregation and lay leadership
3. Review and update policies and procedures with appropriate staff.
4. Facilitate listening sessions throughout the year on appropriate topics.

Regarding a task list, the Board discussed a lengthy list and agreed to revisit the list and attempt to prioritize the items at the August Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Turosak, Secretary