

DRAFT

UU Detroit Board Meeting 12/12/2024

Minutes by Dan Secrest, Secretary
Minutes Approved by Consent 2/13/2025

Attendees:

Rev Julie Brock
Colleen Dolan-Greene (President)
Megan Douglass (Trustee - via Zoom)
Andrea Esu (Trustee - via Zoom)
Eli Kranz (intern minister)
Elizabeth Lehto (VP)
Scott Lehto (Immediate Past President - via Zoom)
Dan Secrest (Secretary)
Maryli Secrest (Trustee - via Zoom)
Nancy Shattuck (Trustee)
Dan Wiest (Treasurer)

Absent: No one

Place: Northwest UU Church & on Zoom

[Agenda](#)

The meeting was **called to order** at 6:05pm

Opening Words by Rev Julie

Reference Documents

- Paper agenda (linked above) distributed by President Colleen
- [November Minutes](#) submitted by Dan S.
([October Minutes](#) also haven't been approved yet.)
- [Minister's Report](#) from Rev Julie
- [Finance Reports](#) submitted by Dan W.

Finance

- We'll need to go to Trust again for more money - \$15,000.
- We've already taken \$25,000 from the Trust this fiscal year.
- Our attorney Ray Foley is advising us about our legal relationship with EMEAC.
- We'll get Chalice Lighter's grant in April for staff.

Joint Personnel Committee

- Separate from Transition Committee that Lorelei is on
- 2 reps from Detroit and 2 from NW
- Will meet next week.

DRAFT

- Appoint Colin Bird and Trey Greene to Joint Personnel Committee. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Health Insurance

- MOTION by Elizebeth Lehto, seconded by Maryli: We approve BCBSM PPO insurance for 3 staff members – Julie, Martha, Eva. APPROVED unanimously
- MOTION by Elizabeth Lehto. Put joint staff on the payroll by January 1 2025 or later, to be employed and on NW UU payroll. (Each Board is voting on this separately.) seconded by Nancy Shattuck. APPROVED unanimously

Use of First Congregational

- MOTION: by Nancy Shattuck. Donate \$250 / month to First Congregational for use of their facilities. Seconded by Elizabeth Lehto. Passed unanimously

Informational Items re Church Facility Rev Julie and Pres Colleen wrote EMEAC's Board President Gloria House on November 17, 2024, That letter said EMEAC was in violation of its agreement with us. The First UU Church Congregation had been informed that the letter was going to be sent earlier that day.. EMEAC President House responded on November 26 Atty Foley responded with a legal notice that attached the building inspection report we had done by Dwight Stackhouse. Rev Julie read Attorney Foley's letter to EMEAC out loud. It specifies how EMEAC is in breach of responsibilities, and gives them a 7 day notice to respond and bring property into compliance.

- Sugar Law has problems with EMEAC
 - Mistreatment of some Sugar Law employees
 - Issues with building maintenance
- If we have legal questions, let Colleen know.
- Task forces for building issues. Dan W, Tim Bailey, Todd Ballou
- Dreaming & Visioning Task Force for what's next – Elizabeth has agreed to be on this. Marsha Bruhn interested. Megan also. Who's going to talk on behalf of the church? Megan and Elizabeth co-chair, and they will get together for coffee to discuss.
- Ruby suggests we meet at Cass Cafe. Other ideas have gone been suggest.. Ask Ruby to be on a task force along with other people who have been adamant about staying in Detroit. Somebody from Board should be part of this. This is about interim space. Ann will get back to Ruby to discuss her idea.Elizabeth & Colleen will survey congregation.
- Omar is setting up social hour while Julie is preaching. But we can ask him to get there earlier.
- We'd prefer not to use the tables at First Congregational. Can the chairs be configured in rows?
- Nancy expressed concern that the mold in UU Detroit basement is the yep that makes the building unsafe to use.

Congregational Care (pastoral care)

- We had meeting. Eli will send [notes from meeting](#) to the Board.
- Want to systematize attendance taking

DRAFT

- Kathe Stevens has volunteered to be attendance czar. Martha working on using tablet to keep track of attendance.
- Dan Horrigan willing to do more congregational care. Also Rev Larry Hutchison.

Shared Ministry Transitions Team

- Present agreement runs thru June 30.
- Rolling out assessment meetings in January / February. SWAT analysis.
- Deep discernment process to go through.
- Rev Julie: Free legal advice has been given to us regarding shared ministry.
- DBA (Doing Business As) legal setup not practical.
- 501c3 possible, but mission doesn't fit well.
- Merge churches administratively, but have 2 locations. But a lot of details.
- Where is this partnership going?
- Minister - mission alignment discussed

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm