UU Detroit Board Meeting Minutes
for February 20, 2022, 1:00 - 2:50pm
over Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87030355779

Covenant - **Read individually (on mute except one person)**

We covenant to work together in honesty, kindness and respect for each other as we carry out our elected responsibilities to do the business of this church to the best of our abilities. We are a religious community. Let us move forward in love.

Attending:

Scott Lehto, President
Mark Tade, Vice President (excused absence)
Dan Secrest, Immediate Past President
Reverend Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
Steven Curtin, Trustee
Eric Gardner, Trustee (excused absence)
Jody Wise, Trustee
Dan Wiest, Trustee
Andrea Esu, Trustee
Nancy Shattuck, Secretary
Glen Maxwell, Guest

There was a quorum

Review Minutes and Today's Agenda.

- Scott Lehto reviewed the agenda and it was accepted without additions or changes.
- The secretary, who had surgery, had not posted the January minutes; to be reviewed in March.
- Susan Matthews had not completed the minutes for the retreat, and these were also to be submitted and reviewed in March 2022.

Finances

Balance, Income and Trust

Dan Wiest reports that because we had a good month for pledges in January, received a payment for Prentis lot 1675, we have doubled the income budgeted. Our deficits were less than that projected. So the church is flush.

Prentis
They sent us the payment, but according to Dan Wiest, it isn't equal to the bill.
Share the Plate – Randy Block MUUSJN (29 May)
Dan Wiest proposed that for a Share the Plate donation, we give $100 this year to the Randy Block MUUSJN event. The board moved and seconded the motion and the board approved it unanimously.

Project Status

Social Media (Jody)

- Jody Wise reports that the social media and printed material groups met one time. Susan worked up three designs (using symbolic tree) that she will work up for UU Detroit brochures/media. She is wanting to appeal to younger people in the community to get their input as well as the committee. Jody will follow up on getting an Instagram account for 1st UU. A question was raised in the first meeting; should it focus on special events or canvassing, branding, and recruiting. She thought that events should be handled separately.
- Scott Lehto suggested creating a link to canvassing materials through a QR code link to the websites. Steve Curtin thinks this is more of a membership committee concern. Scott Lehto will create a subcommittee for this purpose to relieve busy membership group.

Distribute/Canvass Material (Susan)
This discussion was moved to another date.

Community Church & City Alignment (Rev)

- On June 26, Sue Mosley, the Mayor of Midtown, will be the speaker.
- Toni Tront brought up church tour groups. Virtual tours are operating right now, but we are no longer on the tour. We need to set it up again. Andrea Esu volunteered to contact Toni Tront and research how to move forward. They thought Trey should be involved because he does tours.

Grants (Suzanne)

- Four grants were discussed: reimbursement for media products, transportation for those canvassing, historical church maintenance, and AV equipment upgrades. Steve Curtin is working on listing and pricing the AV equipment. Dan Secrest is working on reimbursement for media.
- Scott Lehto, Suzanne Baker, Steve Curtin, and Dan Secrest will meet on Saturday at 10:00 am to work on word-smithing a first draft.
- Plans are to finish the grant requests before the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2022.

Minister's Report

Current report
Reverend Murray reports that he will focus on women's history in March with an interlude to talk about spring solstice.

Look-Ahead Through May
His last date is May 15, and so the worship committee wants to line up speakers until the end of June.

Ministerial Search/Options
- Reverend Murray recommends Lisa Presley at UU as a resource for the ministerial search. He also volunteered to be available to supporting any search for a new minister. Jody asked Reverend Murray to recommend our congregation to UU to help us in our search.
- Discussion brought up several options in moving ahead in the search: get an interim minister for two years right now, or engage serial speakers, or invite individual speakers while looking for a long-term minister.
- The question was raised that we would need to consider weddings and funerals, and the committee would need outreach to the congregation, perhaps a survey
- It is a two-year process for a two-year interim ministry, and other ministers want a long-term ministry. Ministers pick their top five churches.

Search Committee
- Glenn Maxwell pointed out that the search committee should have two searches, one for an interim minister, and one for a permanent.
- The first step is to engage the nominating committee to advise the committee membership, checking the bylaws.

Immediate Next Steps
The board determined that it would be best to talk to Lisa Presley first, then come back to the committee with a plan. Scott Lehto and Dan Wiest will talk to Lisa before the board does anything else. The Board will meet in a week to discuss their findings on Sunday.

Round Table on COVID
- Scott Lehto proposed that UU Detroit return to hybrid services on February 27, with musicians only and no minister, followed by March 6 with musicians only in the sanctuary and singers on zoom. For the month of March, open the church to the congregation with a limited, masked coffee hour with coffee only for the balance of March. From there, proceed in April with hybrid service and a full coffee hour with food. By May we would be running hybrid indefinitely. The board voted unanimously to pass this motion.
- Dan Wiest asked whether we want to retain Omar for coffee hour. He has been budgeted for 6 hours a week. Dan Wiest will offer him a raise and 5 hours a week starting with March 13 to run the coffee hour. The board voted to approve the motion.

President's Summary and Closing
Jody Wise will meet with Susan Matthews on publishing media designs.
Talk to Sue Mosley about midtown and to Toni Tront about church tours.
Scott Lehto will call Lisa Presley as soon as she is available to talk about ministerial search.
Board will meet in a week to discuss report from Lisa Presley.
COVID Plans

- Feb. 27 and March 4 musicians
- March 3 Sunday hybrid plus social hour with drinks only and masks
- April Sundays hybrid with full social hour

Adjourn

Reverend Murray closed the meeting with inspirational words.
Scott Lehto adjourned the meeting at 2:50 PM.

Next meeting: 20 March 2022