

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of Trustees
First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit
Parlor, 4605 Cass, Detroit, MI 48201
October 20, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Dan Secrest called the regular meeting of the Governing Board of Trustees to order at 12:45 pm on October 20, 2019. Present were:

- Dan Secrest, President
- Dan Wiest, Vice President
- Dan Hale, Immediate Past President
- Martha Bogner, Trustee
- Scott Lehto, Trustee
- Jody Wise, Trustee
- Nancy Shattuck, Secretary
- Bob Lauer, Treasurer

The following members and officers had excused absences:

- Steve Curtin, Trustee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The [September Board Meeting Minutes](#) were reviewed and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Property Tax - Parking Lot:** Dan Hale will write a letter to the city pleading our case. Dan Wiest and Dan Secrest will review, sign the letter, and send to the city. NOTE: City Council Representative Mary Sheffield may be able to help us on this.
- **Check writing:** Dan W will coordinate arrangements to change authorized check writers according to the new policy.
- **Trust:** Dan H is rewriting some of the Trust documents -- long overdue as they were written in a time long ago. He's also planning on initiating quarterly meetings of the Trust.
- **Emergency worship location:** Reverend Murray has contacted Central Methodist and First Congregational, but hasn't heard back from Central Methodist and hasn't been able to get through to First Congregational.
- **New policies and procedures:** Dan S will separate single pdf into separate files to facilitate maintenance.

UUA ASSEMBLIES

- The Board unanimously approved of Martha's proposed by-law change (see [attachment](#)).
- The Board agreed on December 1 as a target date for a congregational meeting to approve the by-law change.
- Dan S will contact the Nominating Committee to solicit delegates for the General Assembly and Regional Assembly.
- The Board agreed on a new policy by which the church will pay registration fees for official UU Detroit delegates to the General and Regional assemblies. Other UUA conferences and training sessions may be paid for on a case-by-case basis. Dan S and/or Martha will write the policy and distribute to the Board for approval. Note: The church has \$2,000 budgeted for "leadership" this year, and this budget item will cover any expenses resulting from the new policy.

FINANCE: Bob Lauer presented the [finance reports through September](#).

MEMBERSHIP:

- [Membership Report](#) was reviewed. Thanks to the Membership Committee!
- There was discussion of trying to get members birth year for marketing and program purposes. We could perhaps obtain the information via an interactive survey. Dan S will investigate.

WHAT'S NEXT / EMEAC:

- EMEAC doesn't include the church in using the building on Noel Night. They apparently have their hands full with the stuff they host.
- Dan S reported that, thanks to Dan Hale, Dan S was able to meet with Fred Vitale and Joel Batterman to get up-to-speed on EMEAC relations. Fred Vitale is interested in having a joint Christmas party -- boards of EMEAC and UU Detroit.
- There was interest in working with EMEAC on voter registration and perhaps other activities.
- It was reported that Nick Schreck has resigned from the EMEAC Board.
- New policy is that UU Detroit Board President and Immediate Past President will represent UU Detroit on EMEAC Board (with EMEAC approval). Accordingly Dan Secrest is now on the EMEAC Board replacing Bob Lauer, who did a fine job which is appreciated.

LEADERSHIP / PLANNING RETREAT:

- Dan S, Dan W, and Rev are planning the retreat for November 9. Dan S will convene a meeting of this committee to finalize the details.
- We may skip November Board meeting because the retreat is the week before.

CLOSING WORDS: Rev shared closing words which he had also used as at Michigan Senate (at the invitation of Stephanie Chang).

[There is a power at work in the universe.](#)

AGENDA AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- [Agenda](#)
- [Finance reports through September](#)
- [Membership Report](#)