

**UUFM Board Meeting
Sept 3, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Present:

Penny Herickhoff, President
Bob Finley, Vice President
John Knox, Treasurer
Todd Schweim, Secretary
Tom Little, Member at Large
Cheiron McMahill, Member at Large
Kathryn Vonderharr, Member at Large
Rev. Rita Capezzi, Minister — ex officio
Tony Flipovich, Past President – ex officio

Chalice Lighting—We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth, and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.

Opening Reading—Rita lead us in a reading by Phyllis B. O’Connell.

Personal check-in—Each board member gave a short personal check-in on what they are bringing with them to the meeting, the issues they are dealing with and attitudes toward our upcoming leadership retreat.

The board entered into a visioning session regarding:

1. Boiler
2. Water leaks on the NW side of the building
3. Kitchen upgrade
4. State-of-the-art communication technology to maximize opportunities for community participation.
5. Master building and grounds plan

The board spoke about what principles should guide the priorities we set and the choices we make. These principles include:

1. The need to preserve and protect what we currently have.
2. How do we advance the vision of who we want to be?
3. The need for the communication technology to be installed before UUFM re-enters the fellowship.

4. The need to increase our membership.
5. How to effectively use the existing communication systems we have in place.

The Consent Agenda— Bob made a motion, John second, to approve the consent agenda. The vote was unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

Announcements

Mid America Fall leadership Training - 4 registered Kathryn, Cheiron, Bob and Rita

Building and Grounds - new chair, Andy Roberts - Joint work with GS Team (Dennis C.) to identify options for boiler.

Chalice Lighter Grant Application submitted to MidAmerica region - UUFM was not awarded the grant this round. Tony would like to have us move forward with applying for the next round. The board unanimously encouraged Tony to apply again.

Fall Retreat: Fri. -Sat. Sept 25 - 26. Via Zoom. Schedule attached.

Reports

Ministerial Rita gave the ministerial report. Noteworthy items include: The Annual Water Communion is being held Sept. 13. Rita is continuing to foster relationships with other UU fellowships in our region. Hanska has decided to resume in-person fellowship.

Stewardship Task Force Strategy Group Two new members have been added to this group: AmyJo Lennartson, and Mae Gagnon.

Communications Committee Bob spoke about various forms of communications that UUFM uses to reach existing members as well as also an outreach program. The group will be constraining itself for the time being to electronic forms of communication. There was discussion about the need to quantify specific training and staffing needs for each new communication forum considered, as well as potential impact & sustainability.

Cheiron spoke about the possibility of setting up a private Facebook group for UUFM. The Committee will inventory and evaluate current forms of outreach, audience served, sustainability, possible synergism, which groups are under-served and sustainable ways to strengthen our weaker connections.

Todd will be reporting on Google advertising (via written and oral Board and Committee reports) once a month for the first three months. Reporting will then go to quarterly.

UUFM Library John made a motion, Bob second, that Becky be permitted to fill book requests, on an order basis, (for outdoor pick up) at the same time she is doing a weekly building check. The motion passed unanimously.

Circles of Concern Callers: The Board expressed support for UU the Vote requests that voter inquiry be included as a topic in regular Circles of Concern calls. Callers are asked to inquire:

- Do you have a plan to Vote? Do you need any help or specific information? Please refer the contact info of all persons requesting help to Kathy Brynaert. "mnflipnb@hickorytech.net"

Action Items

A. Bob made a motion, John second, to request the Finance Committee consider financing of UUFM Building Improvements Planning in order to obtain mortgage re-finance information from one or more lenders regarding available terms and costs UUFM would incur to secure up to \$80,000 in additional debt on our mortgage – for purposes of physical upgrades to Charles Street building. They are asked to report their findings to the Board at our October 1st meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

B. Todd made a motion, Cheiron second, to Create a Joint Task Force, composed of reps of Finance and Personnel, appointed by the President, to:

- 1)respond to Eide Bailly-identified issues by developing draft Financial policies and Employee Manual Policies for review and action by their respective committees, and;
- 2)recommend to the Board whether or not UUFM should update its Financial Manual in line with Hotchkiss financial policy format.

The vote was unanimous in favor and the motion passed.

C. Bob made a motion, Kathryn second, that we adopt the following schedule to Complete the Board Response Portion of Minister's 2nd Year Renewal:

Initial review and discussion at Board Check-in September 16
Draft of renewal for Exec Team September 23
Second Review at Board Meeting October 1
Final Review at Board Check-in October 14
Final version circulated and completed October 21
Submitted to MFC by November 1

The vote was unanimous in favor and the motion passed.

D. John made a motion, Cheiron second, that UUFM include specific COVID protections and UU Values Language recommended by our Personnel Comm. in all UUFM requests for bids and 3rd party contracts this fiscal year. The vote to adopt and incorporate this language in all 3rd party bids and contracts was unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

E. John made a motion, Bob second, that we remove the Stewardship Task Force request for 5 years of pledge data, by donor name, from the table. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Todd moved and Kathryn 2nd to approve the Task Force request that the Treasurer provide the Task Force 5 years of UUFM pledge data history by donor name. After discussion, the vote was five in favor, two opposed. The motion passed.

Bob made a motion that we adjourn. John seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Next Board Check-in
Wednesday, September 16, 2020 @ 6PM.
will address Minister's 2nd Year Renewal:

Next Board Meeting:
Thursday, October 1, 2020 @ 6PM