

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board of Trustees
Minutes for October 11, 2015

Call to Order: 12:55

BOT Attendance: Dea Kowalzyk, Chris Wagner, Anne Stark , Dharmini Roberts

Absent: gg

Other Attendance: Martin Steidler, Heidi Gould, Bill Joswiak

Opening words: may our hearts be open to

Open Forum:

Martin Stiedler – Nobody to open the building at 9:30 a.m. Attendance in the last month has been poor, suggest publicity be rise pretty high up in priority, Keewinaw fractional time minister – apparently very good, try to get him down here one weekend a month if we can. He’s a Humanist with a capital H. He’s been here at least twice, talked both times briefly.

Heidi said Roger Greely is a great pastor but isn’t well. He has lots of contacts in the UUA, but Roger’s health is an issue.

Martin – lots of discussion about cleaning the floor, when the soaps are „rgreen“ they aren’t as effective, cant’ really say we can’t have coffee in the sanctuary, no sharp dividing line,

Bill– After Heifer Dinner, should spot clean when stains are fresh.

Chris – could put up a half wall on the other side of sanctuary to demark the „food“ area from the non food area.

I Approval of Minutes Chris made

II Treasurer Report Working on completing sale of Wright street. Mortgage BALANCE \$99,259.15 BANKING cd 29718.92 MBank checking account.\$5549.88 and all bills have been paid. And got a \$100+ from Econo receipts.

III. Religious Education Coordinator Report: Dharmini says RE Committee going to meet on Thursday, will be meeting this next week. They know the BOT is interested in hearing how they are doing in the search. Will let us know

IV. Committee Communication as Needed:

Religious Exploration

Community Development – Dharmini – discussing possible activities to have sense of togetherness, like going sledding, so during the winter months we will have more fun activities in the winter months Dea Kowalzyk invited the whole congregation to her family’s winter party.

Sunday Service

Social Action

Music

Finance – Dea – Should the sale of Wright St. funds be used to pay down the remaining mortgage.

Facility - Christ -- Dan is coming up with a list of things that need to be done routinely that aren't on the "how the building works" document. Doesn't really tell you what to do with the PH testing of the water. The water filter was changed last year and this year. Was pretty full of sand. Took sample of water to Mqt Water Department, and it was fine. There's rust in the men's room that Laura Lancour could do. The light in the men's room gets left on. Could the green team look into putting in a motion sensor?

Dharmini – does the furnace needs to be checked? Can do morning hours to unlock the building.
Chris – what does it mean to "be checked?"

Mike should have the last check up on water and heater on the units.

Martin – should probably change the water filter twice a year if there's a lot of sand in it.

Communication Team

Adult Enrichment

Green Team – Dea will contact Green team about the motion detector in the men's room.

Stewardship

V. Old Business

A. Leadership retreat NOV 15

Agenda was going through the BOT Goals for the year and go through goals with

Heidi – making an Organization chart with a chain of command to help define how activities should be taken care of. Responsibilities refined, collaboration between committees.

Heidi has information for a new projection system, but who does she take info. How to get the project-based ideas enacted. How to reignite commitment to community.

- 1 Go over BOT agenda (send out ahead of time)
2. Give committee chairs to ID committee interests and how they would buy into the BOT
3. go over org chart. (preview during Nov. 8 bot meeting)
4. Listing as a community the key items we want to get done this year.
5. discussion of project based system –
 - a. listing projects
 - b. listing key materials and resources needed
6. acknowledge key seems to be seeing things happen, ideas on how to encourage others,

Dea – some members may be concerned about funding. – having gg here to help determine where committees are with their budgets

Chris – we already have a budget for this year, the big projects

Heidi – we work out the projects we want to do before the end of this year, and then call a special congregation meeting to update the budget for THIS year.

BILL – parking lot - needs to be regular maintenance, like filling the cracks that have to be done on an annual basis, and regular maintenance every few years should be budgeted for every 3-4 years.

Martin – BOT is ultimately responsible for budget, shouldn't be surprised by committee activity and their budgets. Just takes lots of transparency and good will.

Dea – resurfacing the parking lot for example, the bigger projects we can lay the groundwork for the next year's board so they can follow the longer term strategy .

Dharmini – would be good in talking with committees, should be some document that comes out of this process, to see what the committee does on an annual basis and if the activities are in the budget or not. Or if the new projects that committees coming to the board with are new monies that need to be allocated.

To prepare for Nov. 8th – confer with Anne about the org chart, and to research committees that I'm liaison with to research their budget needs and desires? (Dea and Anne said yes, that's our understanding , too.)

B. Credit card for Heidi – Dea needs to talk to gg and physically get the forms for Heidi to get a credit card. They need the minutes where the BOT approved a credit card for Heidi.

Somehow we need to reminder (Timeline) agenda item for the year what things need to happen at what times there are.

Dea – there's a monthly calendar, should be updated and

C. Nominating committee bylaws (Anne) Tabled till November.

VI. New Business

A. Interim person for mediation council

a. Dharmini – do we need an interim person? As someone who's served, Martin stays in contact and knows people well, and we haven't needed a person,

b. Dea – we have a person on deck if we need to add someone Cindy Brown is willing to step up

B. Snowplowing Contract _ Email exchange with gg. Al taken care of.

C. Room at the Inn Approval. – Nov. 1-8th. Dea moved, Dharmini seconded. Passed unanimously.

D. Covenant. – We have an existing one. In the book right behind directory.

E. Nominating committee. – Nancy Sullivan sent e-mail to Dea asking if Mike Erdman would be OK with the BOT. Will be recommending whoever they want.

F. Building opening – Dea asked if it's a Sunday Service Committee schedule?

Amir was here – we have two extra keys, he makes coffee. Could a member have a key?

Seems to be an issue on Sundays, not necessarily during the week.

Bigger question may be that the tie of community isn't as close as it needs to be, Heidi – lack of cohesiveness representing as a congregation, acknowledging that we do things as individuals but we don't do things together, and that there's a lot of talk but not a lot of action. To really see something done is a rare occurrence.

Dea – Or if someone DOES go do something but then then they get crabbed at by others.

Heidi – Leadership will be the same 12 people

Dharmini – There are groups of people at different levels of commitment and attendance. There needs to be a circlet the wagons moment so we can grow and nurture the individuals and their needs. If people who aren't coming don't tell us why, it's hard

Membership/community needs to be addressed at leadership retreat.

Chris – We need a good look at shared pulpit since we don't have a minister, I'd be willing to help with RE sometimes to

Martin – Park Forest, similar to what we have, - their calendar is busy, every day there is something going on.

Heidi – Where are they located? In town?

Martin – Located at the edge of town. Bunch of people got together and met in people's houses, met in schools because there were a lot of kids. There are other models that we can look at. Ultimately it's the leadership folks who say what needs to be done.

Mike – where does the shared pulpit approach come from?

Heidi – There's a book and a set of instructions. It's difficult to schedule especially since there's a bunch of groups wanting to meet after services.

Mike - Sounds like something that should be on-going.

Heidi – Having it be on-going was part of the vision, but it since moving it's hard to be
There are 2-3 people on every committee and it's the same small group of people.

Dharmini – could put it into a rotation for Forums and use the forum to develop ideas for services. If

Members don't want to run a whole service, they might want to present at RE.

Martin – A couple of years ago, there was a survey of membership of what they wanted, what they're here for and what they want/don't want. At that point there were major issues that could have split the congregation. Now we don't have issues, we have lethargy, inaction.

Mike – If we just talk to new visitors , you can get what their talents and interests are.

Next Meeting: Sunday, November 8th, 2015

Adjournment at:

***For BOT Meeting on the 8th BOT goals, copy of org chart.

*** FOR BOT Meeting on the 8th by laws language for

***For November. 8 meeting - Specific budget items for the committees we liaise with

For Nov. 8 meeting – update the monthly calendar. to-do list (New business)

For nov. 8 – covenant of right relations.