

## Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation

### Board Retreat planning Session

August 2, 2015

Called to order 12:35

BOT attendance: Tim VanderVeen, Dea Kowalczyk, Dharmini Robertson, Anne Stark, Chris Wagner,

Absent: Treasurer g.g. gordon,

Also present: Martin Steindler, Heidi Gould

Special meeting: BOT retreat Sat. Aug. 15.

Open Forum – No comments

#### I. OLD Business

##### A. Mediation council

Simone and Martin unanimously accepted as new members of mediation council. Dharmini spoke briefly with Simone and Martin, Mona Varney has expressed when she was appointed she wasn't aware it was a three-year commitment, as long as it keeps being a calm situation, she'd consider staying on. Martin and Simone are ok with whatever they need to do.

##### B. Religious Education

Resignation letter as of 31<sup>st</sup> of July from Lisa McKenzie. It seem she feels like she's being pulled in too many directions and has little to no authority to carry out her duties.

1. Tim asked if Dharmini could call Lisa and talk through having more support from the BOT and only two contacts for instructions – Chair of the RE committee and Dharmini the BOT liaison.

##### C. Finances - Heidi needs a credit card and to get paychecks direct deposited . Chris Wagner moved we authorize debit cards for both Heidi Gould and gg Gordon. Seconded by Anne Stark. Passed unanimously

#### II. New business

##### A. Emmy Lou Belcher is retired, but is a part time minister in several capacities. She has some connections in the northern part of the lower peninsula, Can ask her anything about what goes on in a congregation.

##### B. BOT Retreat Schedule - Morning with EL Belcher and afternoon on alone on how the BOT is planning on working on the projects.

- 9:30 -- spend a half hour cleaning out Board books.
- 10:00-12:30 – workshop with ELB.
- 12:30-1:30 Pot luck lunch.
- 1:30-4:00 continue addressing board issues with or without ELB.

### C. BOT members' priority issue lists

- a. Dea – Increase membership, grow the congregation, building and grounds updates, With the idea of having weddings out here.
- b. Dharmini – Attracting new members – specifically what can the BOT do? , Having a lay-led congregation how to develop a thriving culture? Having a culture seems like a BOT task if we don't have a minister. Building a vision as a BOT -- How do we want to work together as a team.
- c. Anne – My single one grow membership using marketing, PR, advertising and events
- d. Tim – Support and grow RE program, to support the reality of our population. Meeting needs of congregation individual members. We may be falling short of goals of meeting the needs of individual members.
- e. Chris – membership. Making the services fruitful - if people don't feel like they're getting something out of the service, here they won't come back.
- f. Emergent -- Committee membership and committee functioning, guidelines as to committee meeting schedule and activity. Some committees overlap a lot in what they do. See Green team, Building committee and Aesthetics committee

### Additional discussion

- Ministry Area Profile from Old, Old, location. It seems like a lot of the information in it was difficult and expensive to collect 20 years ago, but would be relatively easy to collect now due to technology.
- Adopt a highway as a way of engaging the neighborhood? Join them and work with the community, we're willing to be part of community

Adjourned at 2:05

Respectfully submitted, Anne Stark, Secretary