

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 24, 2018

BoT Members Present: Anne Stark, Dave Stensaas, Kathy Campbell
Other Attendees: Sari Embly, Jamie Kuehnl, Mary Maki

Opening words: "The road that lies ahead of us...."

1. Game Plan for the next year
2. Surveys - Jamie has analyzed 11 surveys, she's waiting for more to get a more accurate view of the priorities of the congregation.

Sari Embly suggested looking for additional cuts in the budget to get us through the next 6 months.

Dave said he has asked several times about a 2003 or 2006 variance that was denied by Chocoley Township. The administrator has not responded. One thing we might be able to do is split the property and sell.

Areas for planning

Minister

Sunday Services

- Music
- Programming

Building/Grounds

- Flags
- Building front
- Signage
- Selling vacant land

Religious Exploration

Membership and growth

- Outreach - Advertising, feature articles

Sari brought up the idea of having a flea market in our parking lot on weekends.

Anne said we've gone around and around every board meeting that we talk about getting more members in the door and do more advertising but we never make any decisions. She said we should ask Ian Evison for specific help with struggling small congregation

Mary Maki suggested a feature article in the Mining Journal or Marquette Monthly

Dave suggested we start planning by focusing on each area of planning. One of our problems may be focusing on political or social issues that are of special interest by one or two members such as Palestine/Israel or LGBT, maybe even Share the Plate. These are activities may have been possible when our congregation was larger, but divisive issues may be driving potential

members and current members away. It would be good to have a draft of a plan to present at the Congregational Meeting on May 6.

Kathy said maybe our extra fundraising should be separate from pledge money. Our congregation already pays into the UUA which does lots of social justice work. Jaimie suggested that we remind the congregation of that in the order of service.

Jamie said that we are known in Marquette (at the Farmers Market) for being generous and active in the community.

While talking about Share the Plate, Sari's suggestion is to put a separate collection container in the entry or on the round table after service and allow members to donate as they see fit rather than go along with the

Jamie led a discussion about how to summarize and present the information gathered through the survey. She is also going to present information about funding a minister and a strategic plan for Religious Exploration.

The next meeting is the BOT meeting to discuss the budget will be April 15 after church

The Budget Forum is Sunday April 22 after church