

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Board of Trustees Meeting – July 14, 2019  
Minutes

**Call to order:** 12:18pm

**Attendance:** Jason Harrington, Mary Maki, Desi Mims, Anne Stark, Teri Rockwood.

**Other Attendance:** Martin Steindler, Susy Swanson, Sarah Redmond, Lindsey Griffith, Heidi Gould, Michelle Harrison, Paul Mitchell, Sari Embley

**Absent:** Kathy Campbell, Dave Stensaas

**Opening Words and Chalice Lighting:**

**Open Forum:** Sarah Redmond offered kudos to the board for stepping up. Martin Steindler asked about the Help In Haiti account not being a budget item. Heidi explained that all the money in the Help In Haiti account is from fundraising. Martin said the fund was not established "tidily". Teri said the BoT would be seeking clarification from Haiti team as to who was part of the group, what has been promised to YoutHaiti, who has access to the Help in Haiti account, and what parameters are in place for using UUA Funding Program matching funds.

**I. Approval of the Minutes** - Anne Moved to accept the minutes. Minutes adopted as amended.

**II. Treasurer Report** - Jason Harrington/Heidi Gould: the 2018-2019 budget year ended in the black with \$56,575 budgeted and \$50,186 spent. \$1600 was moved from the building fund to pay for parking lot sealing. Kudos to Dave Stensaas for finding a vendor. Anne moved to accept report, seconded by Mary Maki, unanimously approved

**III. Spiritual Exploration Report** - MqtUU does not currently have a SE coordinator. Teri reported after Jamie Kuehnl resigned, families came together and decided to move forward without hiring a coordinator. SE programming will be staffed with volunteers over the remainder of the summer. The SE committee will be working on fall plans. Family camp at Van Riper is still happening Aug. 16-18, in lieu of Peace Camp. Teri said SE committee is seeking donations to fund campsite registration. Family camp has been promoted in the Chronicle and This n That. The Sunday, Aug 18 service will be held at Van Riper State Park. Jason will follow up to confirm registration.

Mary Maki reiterated a board request for SE report contents including the content of SE sessions, head-count of kids by age, names of volunteers and names of guests. Sari Embley showed a notebook for volunteers to record SE information. Sari said that many churches, including MqtUU in the past, have 100% volunteer SE programs. Teri said that's how we will proceed for the foreseeable future. The next SE committee meeting date had not been set.

At the end of the meeting, Teri said she is willing to have a conversation with Jamie to conclude the end of the SE year, remove her from bank accounts and to clarify our commitments to the UUA and YoutHaiti.

**IV. Committee Communication** - Anne said we need a stewardship chair for 2019-2020. Teri said Sunday services are still her responsibility and is being held together with help from Heidi. Sari asked about a guest speaker, Roy Gotham. Teri said we still need a service coordinator to work with guest speakers to pull together a full service.

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## **V. Old Business**

A. Property Sale - There is an offer for \$9,000 for .67 acres of property. The sale price includes residential restrictions. Mary said the lion's share of background work has been done, but we need a congregational vote. A forum on the sale will be scheduled.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. Transition of BOT**

i. Old to New - Martin noted an error in the minutes as to Anne's volunteering to complete Kathy Campbell's term on the board. Teri moved to confirm Anne's 1-year position on the board, seconded by Mary. Passed unanimously.

ii. Review of Binders - Kathy Campbell's binder will go to Jason Harrington. Her key will go to Anne. Teri will schedule a meeting to get all binders up to date. We need to get keys back from Ray Lenberg and Jamie Kuehl. Discussion of rekeying the lock to be held at a future meeting.

iii. Board Positions - Teri volunteered to become president, Jason volunteered to become treasurer, Anne volunteered to be secretary, Mary volunteered to be vice president. Anne asked for guidance on when agendas should be provided. Desi suggested a week before BOT meetings, Jason, Mary and Teri agreed

B. Paul Mitchell Contract - Desi asked for clarification of specifics in the Paul Mitchell contract. This language requested is in email correspondence with Paul and can be added to the contract. Heidi said there is a discrepancy in the amount to be paid in the contract vs. the budget. Paul said the contract is not a standard called minister contract. Meeting time would be held after services on Sundays or would incur additional travel time. He noted this contract was written with an upper limit of pay in mind and is looking forward to a 90-day trial. He would rather be hired as an employee vs. an independent contractor, meaning the congregation would be required to pay 7.85% payroll tax. Heidi said it would amount to about \$900 per year. Paul said this was a standard labor practice. Anne said it is more ethical to hire Paul as an employee. Teri, with Heidi's help, will add specific language to contract to define itemized expenses. Paul will be available on July 19 to sign the revised contract. Teri noted that congregants are already calling Paul for pastoral care and there is no time like the present to start the contract. There was a discussion over the merits and cost of cashing in the Vision Fund CD and whether the May congregational meeting consensus constituted a congregational vote to use the Vision Fund. Teri moved we start Paul's contract July 14. Anne seconded. Martin Steindler said he would cover the cost up to \$1850 of paying Paul for 60 days of the 90 day trial period so we can schedule another congregational meeting to authorize spending the Vision Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

C. RATI Requests - Teri said we have no committed dates for the 2019-2020 RATI year. Anne said we have multiple issues in addition to those with the RATI organization. The consensus is we will tell RATI we are not signing up for hosting at this time while we have further conversations within our congregation. Building rentals may impact availability.

D. Renter Request - Teri will meet with Stephanie Nadeau to explore hosting regularly-scheduled home school meetings in our space 2 days a week, 10-4, September-May. Martin noted the home school group must provide their own liability insurance.

E. MBank – Transfer of signatories - Teri has turned in signature paperwork to MBank. Anne and Desi will do so this next week. Paul said it is customary for the treasurer to NOT be a signatory to protect the position. Teri's name will be on the debit card. Anne will send new board members the login information to the MqtUUBOT@gmail.com email address. Google's two-factor authentication protocol will require a phone call to Anne to log in.

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F. Board Visibility - Board members will do welcome and announcements on the following Sundays:

July 21 Desi Mims

July 28 Anne Stark

August 4 Anne Stark

Next Meeting: - The board unanimously agreed that meetings will be on the second Sunday of each month. The upcoming dates are:

August 11

September 8

October 13

November 10

December 8

January 12

February 9

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

July 12

Closing Words: #687

Next Meeting: Sunday, August 11, Teri will be absent Mary as VP will lead.

Adjournment: 2:36pm