

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board Minutes
August 10, 2020

I. Call to order: 7:20 p.m.

- A. Attendance: Teri Rockwood, President; Jill Malin, Trustee; Desi Mimms, Trustee; Anne Stark, Secretary; Mary Maki, Vice President,
- B. Absent: none
- C. Other attendance: Sarah Johnson

II. Opening Words: "Bless the imperfect", The Long Haul People

III. Spiritual Exploration Report - Sarah Johnson. OWL planning has been going well with Henry Sale (an NMU student and participant in Q&A). Because Henry is under 25 and has not done the OWL training, we have been encouraged to change the name. OWL has also recommended NOT holding face-to-face classes OR to conduct formal OWL classes online. Henry may be able to offer technical support. Sarah said she's hesitant to start with OWL classes and then have to call it off. That would disrupt group cohesiveness. There are 6 families interested in participating, and 4 more possible participating families.

Parent orientation at the end of August, sessions start in early October to give COVID cases a chance to equalize. The community is still unclear on whether Marquette Public Schools will be meeting in person or not.

Sarah is eager to facilitate with Henry, but intends to follow Board decisions about COVID-19 safety measures of meeting in small groups.

Spiritual Exploration for younger kids has been languishing. Spiritual Exploration committee members have had work and health challenges and have had to step back. We're looking at a one-room-schoolhouse model if members are interested in having kids in SE.

This agenda includes many of the questions Sarah had.

IV. Open Forum - None

V. Approval of Agenda - Jill moved to approve as amended. Desi seconded. Approved unanimously

VI. Approval of July 6, 2020 Minutes - Mary moved to approve. Desi seconded. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

VII. Welcome New Board Member: Jill Malin - Jill has experience on multiple boards and an associate's degree in accounting. Teri had met with Jill previous to this meeting, where Jill got her Board book and was oriented. Anne said she felt she's leaving the Board in very capable hands.

VIII. Reassign Board Positions

- A. Jill - Treasurer (YAY!)
- B. Desi - Secretary
- C. Mary - Vice President
- D. Teri - President

IX. Treasurer Report

Teri has entered our 1099 employees into Patriot Software, so their payroll taxes will be taken care of. Because Spiritual Exploration and Cleaning has been on hiatus, Teri has not been writing many checks.

A discussion was had about paying service providers a stipend. We will be sending \$50 each to Julie Williams and Simone Chiodini.

John O'Bryan has been working on energy optimization and we received a check for \$167.61

There have been some changes due to COVID social isolating, including accounting for PayPal fees separate from pledge payments.

X. Old Business

- A. 2020-21 Budget Approval: Update Board Binder - Board members should make sure they have a copy of the Approved budget for their binders.
- B. OWL: Decide on Directive for Teachers - Teri said her opinion is to have Sarah and Henry go ahead with their parents' meeting to get their opinions and to see what the school system will decide. Desi said we should prepare for the best and be ready to cancel if things get worse. We will tell Sarah and Henry we're cautiously optimistic.
- C. No Services planned for August - Desi and Erin are taking a break. Holding services on Zoom has been a challenge, but we could include more elements of worship even if we don't have a planned message of the morning.
- D. Renew Soul Matters - We have renewed for the 2020-2021 church year for \$400. Mary questioned the value. Teri pointed out how many resources that are available and is customized to Unitarian Universalist spirituality. Desi said he would do a demonstration of a service doing a live-action dice-roll service to show how quickly a service can be put together.

IX. New Business

- A. Internet Service at Meeting House - Do we need to upgrade our router. We need to be able to count on Internet service.
- B. Small Group Offerings in-person of 10 or less - Teri is offering a small-group opportunity to connect using Soul Matters materials. We have been really disconnected. Desi said this is a nice intermediate step between Zoom meetings and full-attendance Sunday morning meetings.
- C. September 13 Water Communion - We will hold this outside.
- D. Volunteers available for projects: Superior Rehab Housing. Sarah Johnson said this group is looking for projects. The ceiling in the RE space needs to be painted. Laura has connections to get paint at a discount. Jill volunteered to be the liaison.
- E. Visibility of Board on Sundays
 - a. Aug. 16 - Jill
 - b. Aug. 23 - Jill
 - c. Aug. 30 - Desi
 - d. Sept. 6 - Teri
 - e. Sept. 13 - Mary

X. Other Business

- A. Northwoods Learning Hub - Mary suggested we offer Northwoods a discount to use our space. Teri said the NLH board decided to not have any face-to-face meetings this fall.
- B. Directory - Mary said there were several mistakes on the roll list for the congregational meeting. Teri said Alicia put it together the morning of the congregational meeting. Desi asked if the votes would have gone any differently if the directory had been correct. The votes would have been the same.

XI. Adjournment: 9:32

Next meeting: Monday, September 14, 2020