

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Board of Trustees
Minutes for Monday, December 20, 2021

- I. Call to Order: 6:38 p.m.
 - A. Attendance: Jill Malin, Mary Maki, Susan Urban, Erin Kilbourn-Mims, Adam Skidmore
 - B. Absent:
 - C. Other attendance: Martin Steindler
- II. Opening words and chalice lighting
- III. Open Forum

Status of welcoming words - finished.

Martin addressed the issue of not seeing anything about publicity for MUUC on Board minutes on the website.
- IV. Approval of Agenda. Mary moved to approve, Erin seconded, approved unanimously.
- V. Approval of November 21, 2021 Minutes. Correct amount for monthly mortgage payment is \$606.35. Susan will correct. Mary moved to approve, Susan seconded, approved unanimously.
- VI. Treasurer's Report.

Relatively standard month, \$606 for three years to Blue Host for website hosting, \$2,928.79 outgoing, incoming \$2,230.59, Sunday collections were very high, there was incoming money from the various usual sources. Jill shared the balances of various funds, and transferred money in December, November and August.

Status of reduction in monthly loan payment - it has not yet been lowered. The extra money will be applied to the principal. Jill will follow up in person.

Status of correction of employee Social Security data: No one has been able to connect with Gigi Gordon. Mary emailed and phoned Gigi, no response. There may have been a death in her family. No response from UP Tax Company, since no one has heard from Gigi. Mary asked if there was a deadline for correcting the forms, Jill said she did not know of any deadline.

In October the Board approved a motion to pay for all eight forms (\$520) if the UP Tax Company agrees that this would be helpful, and if they cannot be found elsewhere. If this becomes necessary, we will have to decide what line item to use if we must spend this money (Erin suggested in October that it might be Admin). Question was tabled again pending further attempted contact with Gigi.

Mary will forward to the Board an email from Patriot regarding payments to employees. Jill and Mary will follow up in a meeting next Monday, December 27.

Status of credit card update for Blue Host domain name payment - completed.

Status of update of page in the Board notebook with passwords and email addresses, etc. for various accounts - these have been verified/updated by the

admin. Admin said that the page was sent to Jill some time ago. Jill verified that she has it. She will mail or hand it to whomever wants it.

Update of admin job description that was sent to the Board recently by the admin and the one in the Board books - Mary has compared these and seen some additions and deletions. In process of review.

Status of buying a new computer for the congregation and transferring data from the old one? The seven year old Toshiba computer is not working well. We need an external hard drive for the info on this computer. Desi will check the amount of data needed. Mary motioned that we purchase two external hard drives for church data, one for a backup, for under \$50, to be put under line item for office supplies. Susan seconded. Approved unanimously.

VII. Spiritual Exploration Reports: SE and OWL – Sarah Johnson sent an email outlining current status of these. The email text is pasted on the last page of this agenda. Events are being held outdoors, since parents feel it is safer. Jill moved that \$250 be set aside for online training for Henry (our OWL person). Mary seconded. This will come from the line item for Spiritual Exploration expenses. Approved unanimously.

VIII. Old Business

A. Monroe Husbands UUA Grant for lay led congregations: Status of meeting with grant writer Les Beck? Erin has not had time to take care of this. Tabled pending Erin finding time to contact her.

B. Status of condensed history of MUUC - Erin and Mary agreed to work together on this project. Martin Steindler sent a simple condensed history. Susan edited this document, but was hesitant to print it to post at the meeting house, since it was not very positive about the current church leadership. She changed that language, but feels that it needs to be approved by the Board. Document sent with this agenda as an attachment. Susan will make some small revisions and resend, need to include that we went to presenting services online. MUUC may not officially be a Welcoming Congregation, we need to verify that.

C. Results of Erin's talk with Teri before September's meeting about any undetermined Board Task Assignments:

1. Job descriptions need to be updated, we also need someone to do employee reviews. Erin is recused from reviewing Desi's performance due to conflict of interest. There are currently two employees, admin and cleaning. Jill and Mary volunteered to evaluate Desi.

Reviews were tabled pending a new job description for the admin.

2. Status of update of website myuua.org? We need an updated membership list which does not include friends who have recently ceased pledging. Mary will look into this and update.

3. Status of update of MUUC directory? This is done. This will include both members and friends and will be emailed to church members.

4. Determination of the Meeting House capacity - Mary called the Chocolay Township Fire Department. She found out that our capacity is approximately 130. We will seek to have an exact number verified as needed in the future.

D. Status of three way services with Petoskey and Bay de Noc UU? This is continuing indefinitely. The admin will provide feedback on what the cost of this will be.

VIII. New Business

A. Our UUA program fund payment is due. The second payment of \$288 is due. Jill will send this out immediately.

B. Patriot issue (see above).

C. Marquette Catholic Diocese is denying any of the Sacraments to anyone who is LGBTQ. Local Episcopalians and Lutherans have indicated that we are welcoming. As UUs, what, if anything, do we want to do to address the Catholic statement? Erin indicated that MUUC is already known as the gay church on M-28. We will look into a response to this in the new year. We need to review our status as a Welcoming Congregation. Mary will look into this. Jill has ordered the new LGBTQ flag for display in front of the church.

D. Mary asked about whether we are going to investigate the proposed 8th UU principle. Topic was tabled.

E. Monthly day and time for next MUUC Board Meeting: Monday, January 17, 6:30 p.m..

F. Board member presence at services: December 26: Susan; January 2: Erin; January 9: Erin; January 16: Mary; January 23: Susan.

IX. Adjournment: 8:53 p.m.