

Marquette Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
Board of Trustees Minutes, Tuesday, 04-22-25, 6:00 pm EST  
Via Zoom

1. Call to Order: 6:10 p.m.
  - a. Attending: Jill Malin, Andrea Stader, Martin Steindler, Susan Urban
  - b. Absent: None
  - c. Others Attending: None
2. Opening words and chalice lighting
3. Open Forum: None
4. Approval of Agenda: Martin moved to approve, Jill seconded, approved unanimously.
5. Approval of MUUC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes 03-18-25. After review of version sent by Sue, Susan moved to approve, Jill seconded, approved unanimously.
6. MUUC Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes 02-18-25 sent by Andrea, Jill moved to approve, Susan seconded, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Jill

  - a. Review report from Jill  
Credits, Debits and Balances for this month  
Incoming: \$310.20, Outgoing: \$3,610.28  
Balance: \$10,907.74 Checking
  - b. Approval of Treasurer's report: Susan moved to approve, Andrea seconded, approved unanimously.
7. Congregational Administrator's Report - Sue was not available for this meeting, she sent notes on what we need to know. Susan reported on Sue having opened an MUUC Instagram account, and that she is taking a course in Wordpress in order to better be able to update our website.
8. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Website review and updates – Susan reported that she had added the latest approved BOT meeting minutes and the latest Treasurer's Reports.  
Sue is now doing basic updates to events and upcoming worship sections.  
Sue also said last month that she would put out some feelers to people she knows that may be able to help with a revamp of the website. Sue reported that she has had little to no success in finding someone, and so is learning how to do the updates herself. A discussion was had on Sue's duties, and it was agreed that she is doing well.
  - b. Board of Trustees meeting schedule:
    - i. Next regular BOT meeting: May 20, 2025, 6:00 p.m. Eastern via Zoom.
  - c. Services Schedule: Presenter, Topic, Zoom host (Sue unless otherwise indicated) - other comments on services.
    - i. April 27 - 11:00 AM - "Earth Day" - Hosted in person by Petoskey UU at Petoskey's Carnegie Building, or via Zoom.
    - ii. May 4 - 11:00 AM - Our next service with Rev. Denise Tracy, via Zoom only, "Living New Englandly: The Ecstasy of Emily Dickenson." Sue Yost is the Musician.
    - iii. May 11 -11:00 AM - Triangle Service with Petoskey and Bay de Noc UUs, with Rev. Alice Diebel, Topic TBD
    - iv. May 18 - Suggested link to service TBD
    - v. May 25 - 11:00 AM - We will meet IN PERSON at the Women's Federated Clubhouse for a service with Kathryn & Brian Morski, "Tales of the Change Times, music provided by Kathryn & Brian.
    - vi. Other services scheduled:

1. Rev. Denise Tracy June 1 via Zoom, July 27th for the Joni Mitchell service with hopefully Andrea doing music. Andrea said yes.
  2. June 22 - Service by February Sky, "Quite Early Morning - The Life, Times and Music of Pete Seeger," followed by the MUUC Annual Meeting.
- d. Susan has been posting notices to Reddit in its UU Section about the in person services. Anyone else may post anything they wish there as well.  
<https://www.reddit.com/>, Username: mqtuuadassist@gmail.com, Password: Hiking2025!
  - e. Any updates on NMU Ads to publicize the congregation? Sue reported that they are finished with ads for the school year, she will look into this again in August.
  - f. Sue said last month that she would start an Instagram account and maintain it. Has this happened? Yes.
  - g. Ministerial Search: Ministerial Candidate Rev. Mark Wise had to regretfully withdraw due to illness in his family. Another minister applied who had no interest or experience in developing a very small congregation. One more will soon be moving to Ashville, NC, and is interested if we want to have her preach on Zoom. She is a good preacher, with a style similar to Denise Tracy, who has indicated a willingness to be more involved with MUUC. Susan will send her info to the Board.
  - h. Our Ministerial Record is out on the UUA jobs board. It is unlikely that we will have any more candidates this season. However, we can leave our record on the jobs board until the next candidating season in January of 2026. The consensus was that what we have been doing has been going well overall, and we can go on for another year (or less in the unlikely event that we get another viable ministerial candidate earlier).

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Our Congregational Administrator, Sue Roberson, wishes to become a member of MUUC. It says nothing in the MUUC Bylaws about an employee becoming a member, but it does in our "Policy on Payment to Members for Services Provided to MUUC." "Note: Employees of MUUC with a job description can be members of MUUC and receive a wage for duties performed as described in their job description." We DO have a job description for Sue, so there is no reason why she cannot become a member. However, a motion was put forward to accept Sue as a member. Susan moved to approve, Andrea seconded, approved unanimously.
- b. Cancellation of In Person Service on April 27  
Susan had booked a presenter for this date, Rev. Mark Richards, and a musician, Michael Waite. Susan reported that she will be out of town that weekend, two others of our active members were also scheduled to be out of town, and two more were recovering from surgery. There would have therefore been no one to take the presenter out to dinner, which is one of the perks we offer our traveling presenters, and no one to officiate the "home church" service elements on Sunday morning. Therefore, Susan had to cancel the service. Susan was partially to blame for this, since she should have made sure ahead of time that there were people available to administer the service. In future, she will do this. To avoid this situation in future, she proposes that our Congregational Administrator, Sue Roberson, be trained and equipped to administer in person services when no one else is available. This is a common practice at other UU churches. At our last in person service, we had several new people, not among our current membership, so we need to be open for our monthly in person service even if none of our regulars are there. To do this, Sue will need:
  - i. A credit card from our bank with a credit limit of \$2,000. This will enable her to take service presenters out to dinner, and also to be able to pay for ads and sponsorships without having to send a check, which in many cases is NOT an option for payment. The Board of Trustees approved Sue Roberson to have a \$2,000 limit credit card.

- ii. Susan suggested that for each service Sue administers, she will need two checks signed by Jill, one will be in the amount we are paying the musician, if there is one. This is determined ahead of time. Another would be made out in the name of the presenter, with the amount left blank. The presenter would submit a receipt for lodging, and report their mileage to Sue, who would make out a check for these plus the service presenter stipend, currently \$315. Jill said that Sue should be able to have MUUC checks in her name to write for these items, and also for the fee for the Clubhouse.
- iii. Susan also said that in the absence of anyone on the BOT, or a member willing to do home service elements like Welcome and Announcements and Joys and Concerns, Sue has agreed to lead these elements. She will of course be provided with appropriate words to use.
- c. Scheduled date for the annual MUUC budget meeting. Monday, June 2, 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
- d. Jill reported that the date of the Triangle retreat with Petoskey and Bay de Noc UUs will be either September 12-14 or September 19-21. September 12-14 was favored by Jill, Susan and Andrea. Jill said she would text Teri, Christie, and other members for their opinion.

10. Adjournment: 7:24 p.m.