

Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington, Indiana

Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World



Approved Board Minutes

June 28, 2017

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Board members attending: Von Welch, Connie Nelson-Laird, Arzetta Hults-Losensky, Helmut Hentschel, Doug Cauble, Pat Brantlinger

Not attending: Deb Hutton

Present by invitation of the Board: Michelle Monroe-Cook, Sandy Churchill, Sharon Wiseman, Steven Gilbert, Hans Kelson

Ministers attending: Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Submitted by: Arzetta Hulst-Losensky

Attachments: 2017 June Report to the Board (Reverend Mary Ann Macklin)

I. Call to Order

Call to order by Von Welch, President, at 7:00 p.m.

Changes to the agenda: Information from the 2017 General Assembly by Doug Cauble

II. Chalice lighting and reading

Chalice lighting and reading by Helmut Hentschel

III. Check-in

Attendance and check-in.

IV. Main Meeting

A. Approval of Previous Board Minutes

Motion by Von Welch: to approve the May 2017 Board of Directors Meeting minutes, June 2017 and December 2016 Congregational Meeting minutes.

Vote: approved unanimously, with corrections to June 2017 CM minutes.

B. Senior Minister's Report Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Reverend Macklin reported that the Ministerial Support Committee will be Connie Nelson Laird, Libby DeVoe, and Craig Coley. Reverend Macklin will be the spiritual leader and Reverend Scott McNeill will be the administrative leader.

Mary Ann is meeting individually with those who attended General Assembly. There is an End of Life task force. The Wellspring pilot program will begin in September. Mary Ann recently met with Jennie Vaughn of Ivy Tech. Anna Beauchamp is the new Chalice Circle chair. We need a new bicycle rack and a new location for it.

C. Old Business

1. Congregational Meeting debrief

The meeting ran a little long. We appreciated having Steve Dillon there as Parliamentarian. The Right Relations discussion went as expected with a lot of discussion. The congregation trusts its leaders. It was a good idea to meet with groups about the Right Relations Covenant and Committee prior to the congregational meeting. There were many good reports by the presenters.

2. Pledge Campaign update

The pledges received as of June 28, 2017 is \$588,613.

Reverend Macklin stated open invitation letters went out to members who had not yet pledged. Pledges were received from a few members. Although a stamped, self-addressed envelope was provided with the questionnaire, no responses were returned.

3. Right Relations next steps

Discussed the start-up process of the Right Relations Committee (RRC).

What will be the criteria for selecting the committee?

- Committee will have three members. Need to consider make-up of the committee to strive for balance, diversity, and representative of the congregation.
- All should be able to work cooperatively despite different trainings, backgrounds, and skills they may bring.
- May want to consider length of membership at UUCB and familiarity of the church community.
- Look at how other congregations have chosen the committee.

Who will select the committee members?

- Possibly have the Leadership Cultivation Committee (LCC) make recommendations for committee members.
- Several people have expressed interest in serving on this committee. We will pass those names on to LCC.

Other areas to consider for start up

- Is training of committee members necessary? Perhaps the members could participate in the CJAM Mediation training or other training.
- Do we need to use a sound-proof room (e.g. Mary Ann's or Scott's office) for the meetings?
- Let the members of the committee take ownership of the committee's identity and procedures.
- Once formed, the committee members will begin educating and publicizing to the congregation of their existence and how they can serve.

Sharon Wiseman (with help from Connie Nelson Laird) will work on the start-up process - look at best practices from other congregations, check with the Regional staff for ideas, and delegate committee selection to the LCC. Sharon will present at the next Board meeting.

4. Proposed Monitoring Revisions

Motion: Proposed revisions to Board policies to incorporate four Religious Education monitoring updates per year on a scheduled agreed to with Reverend Emily Leite.

Motion by Von Welch: to approve the Board monitoring as revised

Seconded by Doug Cauble

Vote: approved unanimously

5. Youth Liaison

Following up on our discussion from April, proposal to invite Hans Kelson, as suggested by LCC, as youth Liaison for 2017-18 Board Year. Position will be non-voting, but otherwise invited to participate in all regular Board business.

D. Monitoring (per Board Policies, Section V)

1. IV.A-D Board – Senior Minister Relationship

We look at the Board-Senior Minister relationship every month.

2. Examination of Board’s Governance Process (Section III.A-E, H)

These policies worked well and we have seen no issues. Everyone was asked to review their position descriptions and suggest any needed changes.

It is important that we stick to this process. It is a trust issue by the congregation. We do not want important things to get dropped or overlooked.

3. Document progress from Board Agenda (III.G: Agenda Planning)

- We successfully completed our two goals for past year:
 - Establish Healthy Communications Covenant and Healthy Communications Committee (renamed Covenant of Right Relations and Right Relations Committee).
 - Determine and Establish next step for Stewardship (via the Future of Stewardship Report)
- We successfully completed a third, unplanned goal of establishing UUCB as a Sanctuary congregation and added Monitoring of that status.
- We had some preliminary exploration of the open questions, but did not get far. These questions should be considered as possible open questions by a future Board.
 - Who is our larger community? What is our message to and relationship with them?
 - What do we see our church becoming in the future? What will we leave to the future UUs?

4. Report from “Coffee with the Board”

There was a lot of activity at the June 25th service and “Coffee with the Board” did not occur. The Board member doing announcements may want to include a brief comment that a board member will be in the connections booth in between services or after the service during the summer months.

E. New Business

1. Motion: Approve 2017-18 Ministerial Letters of Agreement

- a. Reverend Macklin letter – Mary Ann would like to discuss a roll-over clause for vacation and leave in June and July (split fiscal year). We will discuss this at the next board meeting.
- b. Reverend Scott McNeill letter

Motion by Von Welch to approve the 2017-18 Letters of Agreement

Seconded by Arzetta Hulst-Losensky

Vote: Approved unanimously.

2. Board Announcements

Von asked: Given relatively few Board members carrying over, would current Board members be willing to help training new Board members with Welcome and Announcements by doing first early service with them?

Additionally, only a guest minister, Reverend Forrest Gilmore, will be in the pulpit on July 16th. The new Board members have not yet been trained on safety procedures.

V. Executive Session

The Board met in executive session at 8:28 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Von Welch : to adjourn.

Seconded by Pat Brantlinger.

Vote: approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

2017 June Report to the Board

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin

Since we have our new July term Board Members here this evening, my Board Report will be a bit more “here’s what I’ve been up to”. In other months, I may focus more on monitoring or specific issues that require time (Example: When we were going through Sanctuary process).

Here’s that I’ve been up to:

*Participated on a panel after the Jewish Theater production of Visions of Right.

*Informed staff that Reverend Scott McNeill will take over administrative staff supervision. I will remain spiritual leader for staff.

*Working hard on Solar Panel Sprinter Event which will be introduced this Sunday.

We hope to finish this fundraiser at the end of July. Our]Future Stewardship Planning Working Groups was inspired by an article about the Six doors of Giving. Sprinter Events are one of those doors. We’ll see how it goes.

*Am currently organizing an End-of-Life Task Force and trying to figure out how we might rescue the Funeral Consumers Alliance (former Memorial Society housed here) from its demise.

*General Assembly. Welcome back those who attended. I have already had individual meetings with some of our attendees-- Orion Day, Amy Makice, Carol Marks. Have asked Reverend McNeill to create earlier organizational process next year, particularly in terms of financial reimbursement; the UUA GA will be in Kansas City, MO.

* Ramadan dinner went very well. I will meet with Islamic leader, Anna Maida, in July to create a bit more programmatic element. We had one injury from a fall outside and one lost set of keys---Report written by John Summerlot. Also as a result of my fumbling through several First Aid Kits, we updated our First Aid Kits to make them more uniform.

*Embodied Dialogues around Racism with Nyama McCarthy-Brown and Selene Carter. This was a powerful anti-racism event and well attended. We had two evening sessions: Tues, June 13 and Thurs, June 15. Nyama and Selene will continue their work with our Religious Education program.

*At our annual Chalice Circle Facilitator recognition dinner we took time to specially honor Alan Backlerm, a recipient of our Special Services Award at our congregational meeting. Alan retires as co-chair of Chalice Circles at the end of this month. What a fine and inspiring leader he has been. Alan! Alan!

*A lot of hard work went into this year's budget. It was gratifying to have it passed at our congregational meeting. Thanks to the leadership of the Board and outgoing Treasurer but still Chief Financial Officer, Arzetta-Hults Losensky, for her wisdom, dedication and inspiration in this budget process. Arzetta was another of our recipients for the Special Services Award as was the late John Lawson, our first bonafide Chief Financial Officer.

* Last week I attended the training for "Immigration Witnessing" hosted by our congregation. The presenter was Jesse Cook from our congregation.

*I met with Southern Care Hospice chaplains re a Memorial here in November and other possible connections. We are also reconnecting with local skilled nursing centers after major turnover in their upper administrative staffing over the last six months. I am sending out two person envoys from our VALE (Vigiling at Life's End) team. The very good news is that one of our VALE members, Kathy Gilbert, has been invited to the meeting of the local Administrative Directors where she can make a full presentation about VALE.

*Wellspring is our new in-depth spiritual program of which I have been reporting to the Board this past year. Our Wellspring coordination team held an information session and made outreach efforts for possible participants in pilot program. A second information session will be held in late July or early August. Our first training with an outside consultant will be the weekend of September 9th.

*Community Outreach: I Met with Jennie Vaughan, Chancellor at Ivy Tech. I have also been in contact with Indiana University regarding next year's

graduation schedule and invocation. I hope to get Reverend McNeill involved as well.

*I continue to rally the cry against the GOP Healthcare bill. How low can we, as a country, sink?

*As reported at the June congregational meeting, I will be gone last week of July and all of August.

Peace, Mary Ann

Reverend Mary Ann Macklin